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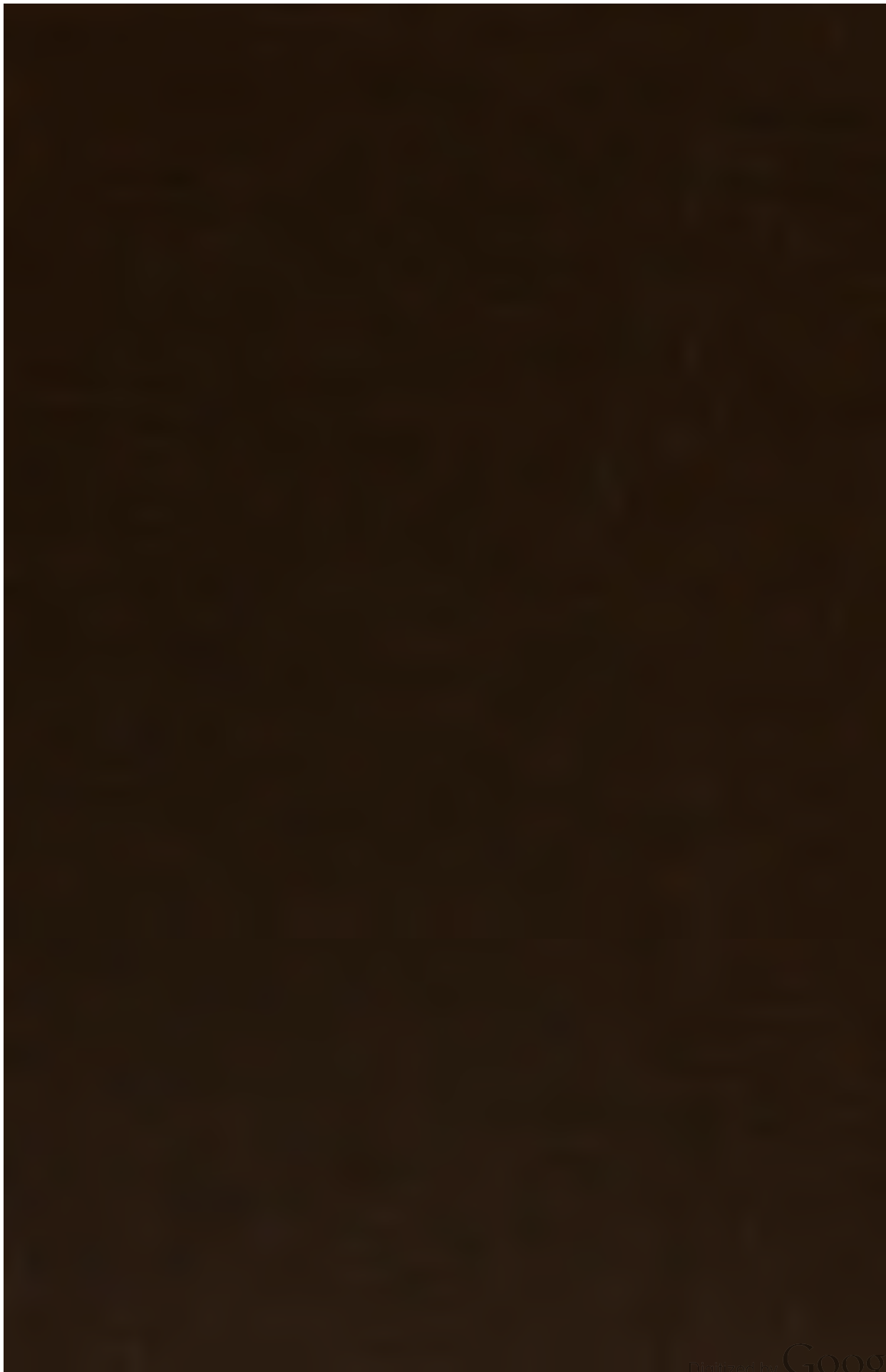
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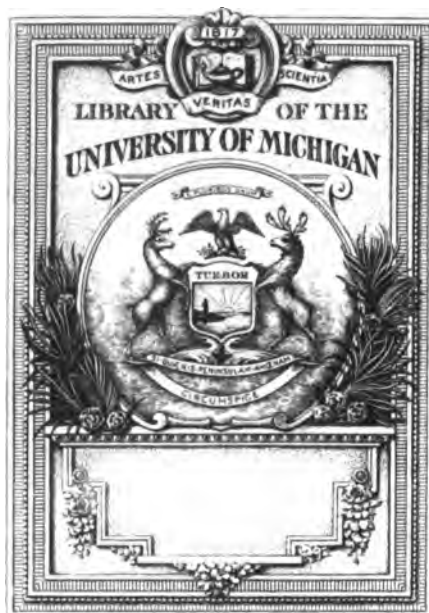
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THE GIFT OF  
**Prof. Clarence Meader**









DEC 24 1923

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. I

JUNE 1909

No. 1

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## INTRODUCTORY

Simplified spelling has now enrolled so large a list of supporters and sympathizers, that some regular means of communication to them and among them is demanded.

To supply this demand is the purpose of the **SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN**. Its aim is to report the news of the movement and to afford a forum wherein, as far as the limited space will allow, those interested in the propaganda may express their views. It will be issued four times a year, in the months of March, June, September and December.

Every one who uses or approves of simplified spelling can pay the low subscription price and it is hoped that every one will. This first number of the **BULLETIN** is sent to all the Signers of the promise and to many others who are believed to favor the reform.

Give prompt and practical expression to your interest by sending 10 cents to the **SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN**, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, by return mail. This will pay for your subscription for one year. Better yet, send one dollar to pay for ten subscriptions—your own and those of nine friends, whose names and addresses you inclose.

## "SPELLING WITHOUT TEARS"

Guests at the third annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board received envelopes with the above inscription. Within were copies of ten leaflets, recently issued by the Board, in which various forms of anomalous spellings and the suggested simplifications were presented in ways to catch the eye, to stimulate the imagination and to convince the mind. Some schools are already using these leaflets as spelling lessons.

## THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

Interest and satisfaction marked the sessions of the annual meeting of the Board, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 6, 7 and 8, 1909.

The following members of the Board were present at the sessions, and all but three were present at the dinner on the evening of April 6: Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews, of the University of Nebraska; William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain; O. C. Blackmer; Professor James W. Blythe, of Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Merrill Dewey; Professor Oliver F. Emerson, of Western Reserve University; Dr. Isaac K. Funk; Richard Watson Gilder; Professor Charles H. Grandgent, of Harvard University; Professor George Hempl, of Leland Stanford University; Thomas Wentworth Higginson; Henry Holt; Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale University; Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia; William F. MacLean, M.P., of Toronto; Professor Francis A. March, of Lafayette College; Professor Brander Matthews, of Columbia University; Dr. William H. Maxwell, Superintendent of Education, New York City; Dr. Charles P. G. Scott; President Homer H. Seerley, of the Iowa State Normal School; Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, Editor of "The Century Dictionary"; Colonel Charles E. Sprague; Professor Calvin Thomas, of Columbia University; E. O. Vaile; and Dr. Andrew D. White, of Cornell University.

Those of the Advisory Council in attendance at one or more sessions were: Miss Katherine D. Blake; Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, United States Commissioner of Education; Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale University; Professor William T. Foster, of Bowdoin College; Gano Dunn; Professor Gordon F. Hull, of Dartmouth College; Professor Samuel A. Martin, of the State Normal School,

Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; Professor William B. Owen, of Lafayette College; Professor Lewis F. Mott, of the College of the City of New York; Professor Charles D. Vail, of Hobart College; and William S. Woods, editor of the "Literary Digest."

Tuesday's session was opened by the delivery of the annual address by the President, Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale. It was a vigorous and scholarly presentation of the cause, and will be printed separately as a circular of the regular series. The Secretary, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, then read his annual report. (See p. 4.)

The Treasurer, Colonel Charles E. Sprague, read his report, which was accepted and filed, with a certificate of audit by Messrs. Haskins & Sells, certified public accountants.

Elections being the next order of business, on motion, Messrs. Seerley, Hempl and Bright were appointed a committee on nominations, and made a report in favor of continuing the President and Executive Committee in office for another year. The report was adopted and the existing officers were re-elected. A list of them will be found on page 8.

No other business was transacted at this session; but the President expressed himself in favor of the election of several Vice-presidents of the Board. The suggestion was informally referred to the Executive Committee.

The Annual Dinner took place on Tuesday evening. It is reported on another page.

Two public sessions were held on Wednesday. The reading of the following papers occupied the morning:

1. "The spelling of college students as revealed in ten thousand themes," by Professor William T. Foster, of Bowdoin College.

2. "The propaganda in the middle West," by Professor Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Normal School.

3. "The progress of simplified spelling in Canada," by Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education in Nova Scotia.

4. "The orthographic problem of the past tense and the perfect participle of the weak verb," by Professor James W. Bright, of Johns Hopkins University.

5. "What else can be done to promote our propaganda?" by Dr. Melvil Dewey.

6. "The scientific basis of simplification," by Professor George Hempl, of Leland Stanford University.

7. "The proposed international committee," by William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain.

Some of these papers may be printed. Brief notes on them will be found under a separate heading on page 6.

General discussion of plans and policy formed the program of the session of Wednesday afternoon. It was opened by Colonel Charles E. Sprague, who reviewed the work of the Executive Committee in the discussion and formulation of plans and policy. He said that every proposal that had any appearance of reason or practicability was fully considered by the Executive Committee, which was in constant consultation and correspondence with members of the Board and of the Council. He believed that few suggestions had been made anywhere, by any one, that had not been under consideration by the Committee. Further, he pointed out that the Committee was in a position to know all the difficulties likely to be encountered in attempting to carry out any given suggestion—difficulties often unimagined by the suggester.

The discussion then became general, various members making remarks and suggestions, and expressing satisfaction at the progress made, and approval of the work of the Executive Committee. It was voted to hold another session on the following day.

Thursday morning, accordingly, the Board reconvened, with fourteen members present, besides three or four members of the Council—not a quorum. No formal action could be taken, but the proceedings did not lack interest and enthusiasm on that account. Among the suggestions referred to the Executive Committee for consideration were the imparting to the Board as news, from time to time, of the subjects receiving attention from the Committee, apart from the questions formally communicated to the Board for their opinion or vote; the publication of something in the nature of a journal or bulletin, and the appointment of a Committee of the Board on the promotion of simplified spelling among the normal schools of the middle West.

Before the meeting adjourned, Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved: That this Board expresses its profound gratitude to its Executive Committee for the exceeding ability, patience and zeal with which said Committee has discharged its difficult duties during the past year. We beg to assure the members of this Committee that we repose the utmost confidence in their wisdom, and, certain that their procedure will continue to be sagacious, we promise them our unfaltering support in the most aggressive measures and policies which they may adopt. The Board is under peculiar obligation to its indefatigable Secretary, whose learning and labors have so largely contributed to the Committee's work."

## SPELLING NOT SELF-REFORMING

One of the arguments presented for the maintenance of opposition to reform is that the language itself has for centuries been slowly but steadily purifying its orthography. There is consequently no need of striving to hasten a movement which is going on better and more naturally of its own accord. This is a pleasing delusion which the uninformed and the unthinking entertain and promulgate. The chief objection to it is its absolute falsity. The language has been doing nothing of the sort since the printing-house undertook the charge of its spelling. Whatever changes of importance have since been made for its improvement have been accomplished by effort and usually against the most violent opposition. Look, for instance, at the strife which went on in our own country some seventy years ago, when the project was put forth to drop the *u* from some thirty words or more which still retained that vowel in the terminations *-our* while several hundred with this same ending had given it up. Its continuance in these made them therefore exceptions to the general rule. As their derivatives frequently reverted to the simpler form—as, for instance, *clamorous* from *clamour*—this involved the further learning of exceptions to the exceptions. The proposal to get rid of this load of useless lumber which burdend the memory with arbitrary distinctions excited then even more bitterness of feeling than anything which has been suggested by this association now.

But I go further. So far from the language having been engaged in simplifying the orthography of its own accord, it has not been simplifying it at all. In many respects the spelling now used is distinctly worse than it was in the latter half of the seventeenth century. Variations then prevailed in the orthography so great that it is not practicable to make absolute general statements. But it is safe to say that in the usage of a large number of authors, some of them of the first eminence, the orthography was at that time more fonetic, that is to say better, than it is to-day. Many of the changes which this association is recommending now are nothing more than a return to some form which then prevailed.

The only justification for the assertion that the language is itself reforming its orthography lies in the fact that there has been and still is a movement toward formal regularity. This regularity in particular instances has conduced to the simplification of spelling. Full as often, if not more often, it has conduced to its complication. Beyond question it has as frequently distinguisht itself by

adding useless letters to words as it has by dropping them.—Professor THOMAS R. LOUNSBURY, of Yale. Extract from his Annual Address (1909) as President of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## THE ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board took place in the "Myrtle Room" of the Waldorf-Astoria on the evening of April 6. More than ninety guests were present, of whom a list was printed.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie was to have presided; but a slight cold compeld him to remain at home, lest public speaking should aggravate it. He sent his regrets and good wishes. Dr. Andrew D. White, formerly American Ambassador to Germany, took his place.

The bill of fare, entitled "Catalog of Cates, with a few Appropriated Remarks," containd, beside the list of viands, many quotations from original editions of old and recent writers, including Sidney, Shakespeare, Bacon, Milton, Ray, Shenstone, Samuel Adams, Crabbe, Jane Austen, Webster and Lowell, illustrating the history of English spelling and opinions about it. Two pages of authorities for DROPT, THO and ALTHO demonstrated that writers of eminence from the sixteenth century to the present day have used those spellings freely and fearlessly.

As toastmaster Dr. White spoke on "Spelling and other things," and urged with much earnestness, enlivend with humor, the vigorous prosecution of the work of converting the public to right views of spelling and other things.

William Archer, its Secretary, responded to the toast, "The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain;" Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, United States Commissioner of Education, spoke about "Spelling and education," Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson on "A master spell," Professor Brander Matthews, of Columbia, on "Spelling and literature," and Professor Calvin Thomas, of Columbia, on "Spelling and the sense of beauty." In response to the toastmaster's request, Richard Watson Gilder, editor of the *Century Magazine*, F. Hopkinson Smith and Edwin Markham made brief impromptu addresses.

## "MUTCH TRUBEL"

"I wood rite oftener but I have so mutch trubel to look in the dictionary to see how to spell wright," writes an old colord woman to a southern missionary.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

Issued quarterly by the Simplified Spelling Board, at No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, N. Y.

Thomas R. Lounsbury, President; New Haven, Conn.

Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer; No. 54 East 32d street.

Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

5 cents a copy; 10 cents a year.

Application for entry as second-class matter at the Post Office, New York, pending.

## ALLIANCE OF SIGNERS

Many Signers of the agreement to use the simpler spellings that have been recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board have expressed the desire to organize themselves and other advocates of the reform into a general association for the promotion of the work which the Board and its Advisory Council have begun and are carrying on, with increasing public approval.

Such an organization would materially aid the Board in the propaganda it has undertaken for the simplification of English spelling. The publication of a regular Bulletin, as the official organ of the Board, affords appropriate means and opportunity to crystallize desire into action.

The Executive Committee has taken up the proposal. No details have been settled, but it is suggested that the proposed association be called the Simplified Spelling Alliance, and that the annual dues be one dollar, which shall entitle each member to receive a certificate of membership and all the publications of the Board, including the Bulletin.

Every one who reads this number of the Bulletin, and who is willing to support the cause of simplified spelling in this way, is requested to send a post card to the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, signifying thereon his agreement to become a member of the Simplified Spelling Alliance, when it shall be organized, and to pay the annual dues when called on.

## THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

There is only one great thought that I can recall in this period of emotional reaction. It has not been stated here to-night; but I think it would have been stated by Mr. Carnegie, if he had been able to be present, because, if I am not mistaken, it is the deepest reason for his interest in the cause. This thought is the peace of the world thru a world language.—RICHARD WATSON GILDER. Extract from his remarks at the third annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## A YEAR OF PROGRESS

Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board, in his report, read at the third annual meeting, announced an increase of many thousands in the number of Signers to the card in which persons agree to use in their correspondence, as far as may be practicable, the simpler spellings that have been recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. To copy, to stencil, to verify and to count these cards, and to keep track of the addresses, he stated, already took more than the time of one assistant, and the task grows ever greater.

He reported a great increase, also, in the number of inquiries and requests for information. To these inquirers are sent the preliminary circulars of the Board, including a card to be signed. About one-third of the inquirers sign the card that is sent to them, while many who do not sign, write to approve, acknowledging an emancipated mind, but pleading fixed habits of the hand.

The membership of the Board was increased during the year by the election of Professor Thomas G. Tucker of the University of Melbourne, Australia, the eminent classical scholar and comparative filologist; and twenty-five new members were added to the Advisory Council. In the Council we lament the recent death of Dr. James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University. The Council is representative of nearly every state in the Union. The question of electing members to the Advisory Council from the friends of the cause in Great Britain was under consideration and would be adjusted according to the views of the Simplified Spelling Society. It had also been proposed to elect as honorary members to the Advisory Council, a number of distinguished scholars, especially professors of English filology, in France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, and other countries of Europe.

Many foreign scholars, the Secretary declared, take a lively interest in the movement, have signed the card, and receive the publications of the Board. Some send for additional copies for distribution. He added:

Indeed, the increase in the interest shown by persons in foreign lands has been a marked feature of the movement during the past year. Inquiries come from nearly every country in the world. The most marked interest, perhaps, is shown in Germany, France, Cuba, Chile, China and Japan. I except, of course, Great Britain, Canada and the Australian Commonwealth. Some indeed have called these 'foreign' countries. We have not only dropped the *g*, but we have dropped the 'foreign' altogether.

The Secretary reported that provision had been made for the issue of special circulars addressed to particular classes—in particular a circular to be sent to selected lists of teachers and a circular devoted to local agents.

Besides the circulars, he announced the recent issue of a series of ten leaflets, of postcard size, intended to be inclosed in letters and to be distributed in schools and at other gatherings. So

great a demand for them had developed that Dr. Scott suggested the issue of additional arguments and lists of the same kind.

The report refers in congratulatory terms to the establishment of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, with Professor Walter W. Skeat as President and William Archer as Secretary, and went on to say that, "Whatever may be done in the way of proposing new lists of simplifications or of discussing them with the British Society, it is the opinion of the Executive Committee that we should publish a manual of simplified spellings containing so much of the whole vocabulary of English, within the limits of a school dictionary, as can be simplified according to existing rules and analogies, together with a suitable introduction and rules. The manuscript of such a manual is in part prepared, and there are also in type a special circular, 'The simplification of English spelling on the basis of existing rules and analogies,' and 'A synopsis of English spellings.'"

In view of the difficulties which necessarily beset the attempt to promote a movement of this kind, Dr. Scott believed that the Board could well congratulate itself on having completed a year of substantial progress.

The report concluded in the following words:

The Executive Committee during the year has received a great many suggestions and proposals from the members of the Board and Council and from Signers. It would be difficult, perhaps, to think up any suggestion in 1908 that had not been considered in the previous years; but suggestions are always in order, and some of them, as time goes by, and as other work is done, become feasible. I think I may say on behalf of the Executive Committee that every suggestion and proposal of anything that would promote the movement in any material degree receives the fullest consideration, and when it is approved will be adopted so far as the means of the Board permit. . . . Reform means change. When we change forward, we have progress. The only progress in this imperfect world is progress toward the ideal. Our faces must ever be turned toward the morning. We have paused to take our bearings; but the next word should be again, as I said in my last report, "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

Most encouraging of all the evidences of the progress that the cause of simplified spelling has yet made was the formation last year (September 10, 1908) of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain—the "S. S. S.," as it is already often abbreviated, to distinguish it from the American "S. S. B."

William Archer, the well known dramatic critic and author, of London, member of the S. S. B. and Secretary of the S. S. S., in an illuminating and witty address delivered at the third annual dinner of the S. S. B., told of the planting of the Society, and of the success—and of some of the opposition—which it has met in the short time since it began its flourishing career.

Modestly minimizing the effect of his own labors in clearing the ground and in enlisting aid from men eminent in literature and filology to turn the furrows, he spoke in appreciative terms of the journey taken by Dr. Scott and Professor Bright

to sow the seed, and to watch the unfolding of the first shoots under the fertilizing influence of the gentle showers of persuasion in a rich and prepared soil.

Organized with the Rev. Professor Walter W. Skeat, of Oxford University, the eminent filologist, as President, with a list of Vice-presidents, British and American, of distinguished rank, and with a working Committee of gentlemen of recognized attainments and authority, the Society has already attracted to itself a large and constantly increasing membership of those whose interest will be influential in promoting the reform and simplification of English spelling in the land of its birth and arrested development.

The announcement issued by the Society states with admirable brevity the objects for which it was founded, and these are then clearly and concisely set forth in the presidential address delivered by Professor Skeat at the second meeting, held September 18, 1908.

Membership in the Society is open to all who (without committing themselves to any particular proposals) approve of the general principle that English spelling ought to be brought more into harmony with reason and convenience, and are willing to sign a declaration to that effect. The annual subscription is fixed at one shilling, as a minimum, and life membership at twelve shillings, "but it is earnestly hoped that members whose means will permit of their doing so will contribute more largely." Members receive without charge all the publications of the Society, which are also furnished free to others on application and prepayment of postage.

The pamphlets issued by the S. S. S. are styled "S. S. S. Pamphlet 1," "S. S. S. Pamphlet 2," etc. The following have been published:

1. "On the History of Spelling," by the Rev. Professor Skeat, December, 1908.
2. "Some Common Objections. I. 'I have Learnt to Spell,'" December, 1908.
3. "Some Common Objections. II. The Etymological Argument," March, 1909.
4. "Some Common Objections. III. The Esthetic Argument," by William Archer, March, 1909.
5. "How to Employ the Symbol 'ea,'" by Walter W. Skeat, Litt.D. March, 1909.

## BRITISH AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS

The question of simplifying the spelling of our language has long appeared to me to be one of very great importance, an importance which the public at large has not fully realized. It is to be hoped that the efforts which your association is making will succeed in directing more attention to the question and will bring about a more general agreement as to the need for action and as to the lines on which action ought to be taken.—JAMES BRYCE, British Ambassador to the United States. Extract from a letter to the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board, March 27, 1909.

Mr. Bryce is a Vice-president of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain.

## PAPERS RED AT THE MEETING

Dr. Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Normal School, in his paper entitled "The propaganda in the middle West," said that the steadily increasing interest in simplified spelling was a move in the direction of reason, economy and common sense, qualities which appeal strongly to the population of the middle West, or north central states. His conclusion was that it is only necessary to keep on spreading information in order to secure the adhesion of the teachers and the educational administration of all that section of the country.

Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Public Education in Nova Scotia, made a very encouraging report of the "Progress of simplified spelling in Canada," especially in Nova Scotia, where he and Dr. David Soloman, Principal of the Normal School at Truro, and other educators are making the idea familiar to the people of the provinces. Within a few weeks three additional newspapers of Nova Scotia have adopted simplified spellings.

The paper read by Professor James W. Bright, of Johns Hopkins University, on "The orthographic problem of the past tense and the perfect participle of the weak verb," dealt with the notation of the termination of the preterits in *-ed*, pronounced, some *-ed*, some *-d* and some *-t*. It contained a suggestion that it might after all be best to retain the *-d* as the uniform notation for all such preterits, on the ground that there would be certain advantages in maintaining one visible symbol as an index of the past tense. This suggestion was controverted by Colonel Charles E. Sprague and others.

In his paper on "The scientific basis of simplification," Professor George Hempl, of Leland Stanford University, emphasized the idea that in all proposed simplifications, no matter how easy they may seem, there should be kept in view a scientific basis, namely, a standard notation, such as is offered by the Roman alphabet, with the letters used in their original or historical powers, supplemented by such additional letters and powers as modern philology has developed or proposes. He deprecated the attempts of some reformers to procure the adoption of so-called simplifications which do not conform to any standard recognized by scholars, and which do not in fact simplify either the words dealt with or the general problem itself.

William Archer, in a paper on "The proposed international committee," narrated some of his interesting experiences as Secretary of the newly formed Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, and indicated the conclusion which the Society had already reached, that it was essential, in order to attain a common understanding and a satisfactory basis, that the problem should be dealt with by an international committee in a way to secure the attention and the assent of the learned world on both sides of the Atlantic.

Professor William Trufant Foster, of Bowdoin College, read an interesting and suggestive analysis of "The spelling of college students as revealed in ten thousand themes." In these themes he found 1,832 misspelled words, 76 per cent of which appeared to him to be due to causes which would be removed or greatly reduced by the adoption of such simplifications as are recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board.

More publicity was what Dr. Melvil Dewey called for in his address on "What else can be done to promote our propaganda." He favored the publication of a periodical or bulletin and urged the opening of a branch office in Chicago, and the employment of field missionaries who should devote their entire time to the work of traveling and speaking for the cause.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING IN SCHOOLS

The teachers' schools at Normal, Illinois, and at Cedar Falls, Iowa, are conducting a propaganda of their own. Their faculties, students and co-workers are doing all they can to break down the conservatism and the prejudices of the present and are proving their faith by their works. They say to all who inquire that the names of the scholars that are behind these modifications are as much an authority as the names of the editors of our dictionaries, and that one is not deserving of a criticism as lacking in scholarship who asserts his independence and introduces a better way for the benefit of the children in the schools.

In addition, experiments on their part have proved that it is no harder to learn the old form and the simpler form at the same time, using a proper method, than it is to learn the older and more obscure form alone, as the simpler form usually becomes a means to aid the pupil to remember the irregular form, since it generally gives him a right key to the pronunciation.

Teachers who use both forms in their teaching assert that the experience proves that there is no reason to fear that confusion may arise, since the endeavor uniformly shows that interest and enthusiasm come from comparison with the simpler form.

In addition, it can be said that every such pupil becomes an ardent convert to the practicability and helpfulness of the work of the Simplified Spelling Board.—Dr. HOMER H. SEERLEY, President of the Iowa State Normal School. Extract from paper read at the third annual meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## ALFABETIC LIST OF SIMPLIFICATIONS

All the simplifications in spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board up to January 25, 1909, are now printed in a single pamphlet (Circular No. 23), which may be obtained on application to the Secretary of the Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York.

## LOCAL AGENTS

The Simplified Spelling Board has recently printed a special circular giving the names and addresses of the local agents who are engaged in furthering the work of the Board. The introduction contains these words: "Any one who desires to act as a local agent of the Simplified Spelling Board and to receive its publications for distribution will receive on request the necessary information. To young men of literary and scientific tastes the position offers exceptional opportunities for extending their acquaintance and influence."

## EXECUTIV COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Executiv Committee of the Simplified Spelling Board are held on the second Wednesday of each month, except July, August and September, with special meetings as required. All subjects requiring the attention of the members of the Committee, including drafts and proofs of all publications, circulars and notices, are submitted to them from day to day. Members of the Board are always welcome at the meetings of the Executiv Committee, which are held in the office of the Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, at 4 p.m. on the days specified.

The dates of regular meetings for the next twelve months, as given in the printed Calendar, are as follows: Wednesdays, June 9, October 13, November 10, and December 8, 1909; January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, and May 11, 1910. The date of the next annual meeting is April 5, 1910.

## A ONE-SIDED QUESTION

An interesting feature of the simplified spelling movement has been the number of set debates that have been held on the subject between colleges and schools. The Board receives frequent requests for material on both sides of the subject. Students appointed on the negative side often complain that they can find no literature on that side. There is n't much.

In Maine a series of such debates recently took place, in which the principal colleges and high schools participated. In all cases but one the decision was in favor of the affirmative, tho the basis of decision was rather the skill of the debaters than the merits of the question itself

## LIST OF SPEAKERS

The Executiv Committee has prepared, in compliance with a request made at the annual meeting, a provisional list of persons who may be called upon to speak in behalf of the simplification of spelling. The number of persons who are competent and willing to speak for the simplification of spelling and to represent the ideas of the Board upon the subject, and have time, is not great, but the list may be found useful.

There are, of course, many hundred teachers in colleges and schools, and many literary men and lecturers who speak on the subject in the course of their professional work, or when specially invited. It is hoped that some of these speakers will be willing to have their names put upon this official list. Committees who desire to secure speakers upon this subject may apply to the member of the Board or Council who is nearest at hand, or to the Board in New York.

## COMMITTEE ON NORMAL SCHOOLS

Dr. Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Normal School, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Dr. David Felmley, president of the Illinois State Normal University, Normal, Ill., and Charles McKenny, president of the Wisconsin State Normal School, have been appointed by the Board a committee to confer with normal schools, with reference to the introduction of simplified spelling in such schools.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Nearly 7,000 teachers, superintendents and college professors have signed the cards of agreement to use the shorter forms of spelling recommended by the Board. Every large university and college is represented.

The National Education Association has repeatedly endorsed simplified spelling. The Twelve Words and other shorter forms are used in the Proceedings of the Association. Nearly 1,000 of its active members have signed the card of agreement.

The Iowa State Normal School of Cedar Falls, Iowa, Dr. Homer H. Seerley, President, and the Illinois State Normal University of Normal, Illinois, Dr. David Felmley, President, use in their catalogs and other publications the full list of simplified spellings published by the Simplified Spelling Board.

Other Normal Schools in Colorado, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin use simplified spelling in a greater or less degree, and are preparing the graduates to teach the new forms along with the old, wherever as teachers they may be permitted to do so.

The State Teachers' Associations of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, South Carolina and Wisconsin have approved simplified spelling. The State Teachers' Association of Tennessee has recommended it to the attention of teachers.

The Teachers' Institute at Easton, Pennsylvania, at a meeting addressed by Dr. Scott, Professor Hart and Professor Owen, April 16, 1909, requested the school directors to adopt the First List (the 300 Words) for use in the Easton schools.

Individual public and private schools in the following states teach the simpler spellings: Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington and Wisconsin.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dr. David Felmley, President of the Illinois State Normal University, Normal, Illinois, has been elected (May 17, 1909) a member of the Simplified Spelling Board.

Richard Watson Gilder, editor of the *Century Magazine*, uses some of the simplified spelling forms—as *stopt*, *past* (for *passed*) and the like—in the complete edition of his poems recently published by the Houghton, Mifflin Company.

Percy Mackaye, in his “Jeanne d’Arc” and “Ode on the Centenary of Abraham Lincoln” employs such forms as *dropt*, *husht* and *steept*, recommended by the Board.

Brander Matthews, professor of dramatic literature in Columbia University, had an article on “Simplified spelling and fonetic reform” in the *Outlook* of April 10, 1909.

The teachers’ paper of the Normal School at Truro, Nova Scotia, has been published for two years in the modernized spelling.

Arthur I. Street, editor and publisher of the *Pandex of the News*, is an active and consistent spelling reformer, as the columns of that useful publication bear witness.

The English Royal Society was established in 1662. One of its early acts was to appoint a committee “to consider the improvement of the English tongue.” The Simplified Spelling Society considers that it is now time to improve it.

Professor G. P. Krapp, of the University of Cincinnati, in his work on “Modern English,” to be published next fall, will devote a chapter to the presentation of the argument for the progressive simplification of English spelling.

Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, who is a member of the Board of Education of New Rochelle, and Dr. C. P. G. Scott, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board, addressed the Teachers’ Institute of that city upon the simplification of spelling, Tuesday, May 11, 1909.

The Maryland Society for the Protection of Children uses the simplified spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board throughout the sixth edition of its “Manual” and its “Thirtieth Annual Report,” Baltimore, 1909. This has been done at the suggestion of Mr. Lewis Hochheimer, the President of the Society, who has announced his intention to use the simplified spellings in new editions of two of his law textbooks.

The Society of Municipal Engineers of the City of New York published in January, 1909, its “Proceedings for 1907,” and in April, 1909, its “Proceedings for 1908,” in simplified spelling, as recommended by the Board. The titles are spelled as here printed.

A “List of Periodicals that now use or favor Simplified Spellings,” recently printed by the Board, includes the names of more than two hundred and fifty such periodicals, about thirty of which are published in New York City. Persons

who know that certain periodicals are using simplified spellings are requested to notify the Board, in order that the names may be included in revised editions of the list.

## FIRST MAINE CENTER

A Maine Center of the Simplified Spelling Board has been established by vote of the Maine Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools. It is working to obtain the names of all persons in the state who approve the theory and practice of simplified spelling, and aims to promote discussion of the subject by schools, societies and the public, and to spread accurate information concerning it by the distribution of literature and by providing speakers for appropriate occasions.

Professor William Trufant Foster, of Bowdoin College, is Chairman of the Executive Committee. The other members are: Professor Alfred Williams Anthony, of Bates College; James Phinney Baxter, President of the Maine Historical Society; Frank Dingley, editor of the *Lewiston Journal*; Professor Frederick Henry Gerrish, of Bowdoin College; Dean James Norris Hart, of the University of Maine; and Professor Albion Keith Spofford, of Bates College.

## RESOLUTIONS IN CHICAGO

The Educational Council of Cook County (Ill.) and vicinity, at a meeting held in the County Superintendent’s office May 26, 1909, endorsed simplified spelling; recognized the Simplified Spelling Board as “the final and progressive authority on English spelling;” agreed to use the recommended forms so far as practicable in private correspondence; directed the officers of the Council to use simplified spelling in official records and correspondence; resolved to use their efforts to gain the permission of local school boards to make the simplified forms optional in the school room; and called on the local school-book publishers for primers and readers in simplified spelling.

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD, 1909-1910

PRESIDENT: Thomas R. Lounsbury.

TREASURER: Charles E. Sprague.

SECRETARY: Charles P. G. Scott.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Isaac K. Funk, Henry Holt, Brander Matthews, Charles P. G. Scott, Benjamin E. Smith, Charles E. Sprague, Calvin Thomas, William Hayes Ward, and the President, ex officio.

When you have read this number through, show your interest in the cause by sending 10 cents, for a year’s subscription, to the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, No. 1 Madison Avenue, New York.

Show it more strongly by sending one dollar and the names and addresses of nine other persons to whom you wish the BULLETIN sent for a year.

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. I

SEPTEMBER 1909

No. 2

*Issued quarterly by the Simplified Spelling Board, at No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, N. Y.  
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## THE "BEAUTY" ARGUMENT

Not long ago the *North American Review* printed an article in which the author said that no literary man could afford to spell *ghost* without its *h* because a *gost* without an *h* was not a real ghost—the word would lose all its literary association.

That is true, in a sense, for the adult who has learned to spell the word in that way; but if the child learns to spell the word in the way we have recommended—that is, without the *h*—it will grow up with all the usual associations with the word *ghost* connected with the simple and the natural spelling *gost*.

This, then, is the argument with which we meet, the one argument of any serious importance that is advanced against our propaganda. The newspapers very seldom criticize our work on scientific grounds. The old etymological argument has been riddled to pieces so many times that there is nothing left of it. It still continues to be advanced; but the men who know about etymology never advance it. The historical arguments that have a pretense of scholarship have completely disappeared.

This feeling for the beauty of words, this unpleasant nervous reaction, this feeling that the forms we propose are ugly and offensive to the eye—"cross-lot spelling" one of our newspapers calls it—is the obstacle we have to encounter, and the only obstacle. It is the feeling that the beauty and dignity of the English language are bound up with bad spellings, that spelling is sacred by long usage. It is this feeling that this Board was organized to make headway against.

It is a slow process; and how do we meet the argument? Not by deriding these people; not by calling them hard names. We leave that to our opponents. We do not deny the existence of the feeling; we do not deny its value. We do affirm,

however, that the general good of the entire English-speaking race and of all the countless generations that are to come—the social reason—constitutes a higher criterion for the educated man and woman than this private nervous reaction felt when a familiar visual association is broken in upon.—Professor CALVIN THOMAS. Extract from speech on "Spelling and the sense of beauty," delivered at the third annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## A MISSIONARY FORCE

To me the great argument for simplified spelling is that our English language, which is the easiest of all languages among civilized people—in that practically no word has to agree with any other words—would go forth and take the treasures of English speech into every great nation in the world. It would take possession of China. It would take possession of Japan. It already has possession, virtually, of the great civilization which is growing up at the southern end of Africa. It has possession of the great continent in the Pacific. It is making steady growth in Germany, to be used in that country, in Russia, in France, and even in Italy. I have sometimes wondered that our great missionary societies did not form an alliance with us; for it is certain that with simplified spelling would go forth not only the great treasures of English speech but with them the great authorized version of the English Bible.—Dr. ANDREW D. WHITE. Extract from his address at the third annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## A WORTHY AMBITION

One of the main objects of this movement is the gradual diffusion of intelligence among the educated classes.—THOMAS R. LOUNSBURY, President of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## NORMAL SCHOOLS FOR NORMAL SPELLING

The *Bulletins* of the Iowa State Teachers College contain the following statement on the title-page:

"NOTE. The spelling used in this Bulletin conforms to that authorized by the Simplified Spelling Board, and exhibits the little modifications that the shortend new forms make in the appearance of the printed page."

The fifty-first *Annual Catalog* of the Illinois State Normal University, for 1909, uses all the simplified spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. On page 57 appears the following statement (in the spelling given):

"All students, including those admitted to Section F, are offerd an examination in spelling on the sixth Friday of each term. Those who show by such examination the ability to spell ninety out of one hundred familiar words such as lose, led, busy, until, separate, reference, occurd, notable, noticeable, ridiculous, accomodate, recommend, are excused from further work in spelling. Those who do not pass this examination are required to take a course of five weeks, or longer if necessary, and should take it as early in the year as practicable. Due attention is given to the simplified forms recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board."

The *Bulletin* of the State Normal School of Colorado contains on its title-page the following statement:

"In all publications of this institution is employed the spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board."

In these bulletins and catalogs the simplified spellings shine out on every page and illumin the reader's way thru the courses.

## NORMAL SCHOOL COMMITTEES

Further indorsement of the movement for the regulation of English spelling comes from the National Education Association, in a resolution adopted by the Normal Department, at the forty-seventh annual convention of the Association held in Denver, Colo., July 3-9, 1909. The resolution first approved the appointment by the Simplified Spelling Board of Dr. Homer H. Seerley, Dr. David Felmley, and Charles McKenny, all presidents of normal schools, as a Committee of the Board to confer with normal schools with reference to the introduction of simplified spelling in such schools, and then appointed the same men to act

as a Committee of the Normal Department of the National Education Association for the same purpose, with instructions to report at the next annual meeting of the Association.

## SUGGESTS ATTACK BY THE FLANK

"Begin on the ground floor!" writes an enthusiastic correspondent, William Simon, of Summer-ville, S. C. (August 25, 1909). He urges that the approach to the infant intellect should be made by way of the nursery and kindergarten. By printing "Mother Goose" and other nursery classics in simple spelling, children could be made to imbibe correct notions of orthograpy without the necessity of first converting hide-bound school boards and trustees.

Mr. Simon contributes a poem to illustrate one of the anomalies of the present English spelling with which children have to contend:

### AFTER THE STORM

The farmer drives his plough,  
In a soil that's stiff and tough,  
His horse is lame at hough  
And has a wheezing cough.  
The housewife kneads her dough,  
In a handy wooden trough,  
And bakes it through and through  
Until 'tis done enough.  
The swing hangs from the bough,  
The wind dies to a sough.  
The rocks are lined with chough,  
All seated on the clough.  
The sportsman swims his shough  
In waters of the lough;  
That late were high and rough,  
But now are just a slough.

## MATTHEW ARNOLD'S VIEW

Our absence of any authority with such a function as the reviewing of our spelling and the making it rational is well known. Englishmen generally profess to be proud of it. I am myself disposed to think that a royal commission might with advantage be charged, not indeed with the absurd task of inventing a brand new spelling, but with the task of reviewing our present spelling, of pointing out evident anomalies in it, of suggesting feasible amendments of it. But such a commission should be permanent, with the function of watching our language, by no means of stereotyping it; and, though appointed by government in the first instance, it should recruit itself, as vacancies arose, by cooptation.

1877 MATTHEW ARNOLD, Report as government inspector (in J. H. GLADSTONE, "Spelling reform from an educational point of view," 1879, p. 79).

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

William H. Elson, superintendent of schools of Cleveland, Ohio, recently issued a "Preliminary Report" recommending a simplified course of study for the public schools of that city. Comparing the school curriculums of eleven American cities, he finds that instruction in reading and spelling absorbs on an average 30.7 per cent of the pupil's total school time! What better argument could be made in favor of simplified spelling than the mere presentation of these significant figures?

More than one thousand of the five thousand active members of the National Education Association have signed the agreement to use the simpler spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board.

For the honour of the "King's English" the Ontario education department has issued a decree that the "British orthography" must be followed by the schools of that province, and that the needless *u* must be inserted in such words as *favor*, *honor*, *labor*. This reactionary step is derided even by the critics who oppose any forward steps in the dropping of equally superfluous letters.

Many requests for information have been received from professors and students in the German universities. Some of them have signed the cards of agreement.

Simplified Spelling met a two-dollar Waterloo in the Tennessee State Teachers' Association in session at Monteagle, Tenn., July 15, 1909. A resolution endorsing the movement having obtained a majority of one on a test vote, the president politely suspended action on the main question in order to enable two outraged spectators to qualify for membership by paying the membership fee of one dollar each. These two sudden experts then voted No, and the resolution was defeated by a majority of two.

Dr. Melvil Dewey spoke on the subject of simplified spelling before the Library School recently in session at Chautauqua.

The following business schools teach simplified spellings: Hesser Business College, Manchester, N. Y., J. H. Hesser, Principal; Platt's Business School, Hoboken, N. J., Charles T. Platt, Principal; Roseville Commercial School, Newark, N. J., Miss L. Blaeser, Principal; Steubenville Business College, Steubenville, Ohio, J. T. Thompson, Principal.

Dr. F. F. Vale, professor of mathematics in Lincoln Memorial University, Cumberland Gap,

Tennessee, made an address on "Irrational and rational spelling" before the teachers of Claiborne County, assembled at the "Summer Normal" in July. One hundred and five teachers gave in their names as favoring the use of some simplified spellings and desiring to receive circulars and other publications of the Board for their information and guidance.

If our readers know of any case in which any school superintendent or principal or any board of directors or trustees of an educational institution has rejected or ejected any text-book because of its use of simplified spelling, they are requested to inform the Simplified Spelling Board. If a definite case occurs, the Board may be able to make the issue clear to the public interested and to vindicate the right of teachers to apply ideas of improvement in spelling as freely as they apply ideas of improvement in other branches of education.

## ADDRESSES TO TEACHERS

Address to the teachers of the United States, the Board will issue in September a new circular, in which the subject of simplified spelling will be presented from a teacher's point of view. The circular has been written by Calvin Thomas, professor of Germanic languages and literatures in Columbia University, and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## THE SPELLING OF THE EVANGELISTS

A writer in an Ohio newspaper, protesting against the improvements proposed by the Board, speaks particularly of the words like *head*, *health*, *heaven*, and so on, from which we propose to omit the useless *a*. To this he objects, and especially to the alteration of the word *heaven*. "Heaven," he says, "is variously described by poets and inspired writers, not only of the past, but of the present, but there should be only one way of spelling it—with an *a*, as the evangelists and apostles did." —Dr. CHARLES P. G. SCOTT, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board. Extract from his annual report.

## A COLONIAL CRANK

Goodman Guzzler.—What ails yon scurvy loon? Why disturbeth he ye peace?

The Landlord.—Oh, he hath some fool notion which he calleth simplified spelling. What think ye of a man who would spell *dogge d-o-g*?—Puck.

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Thomas R. Lounsbury, President; New Haven, Conn.

Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer; No. 54 West 32d street.

Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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## ABOUT THE BULLETIN

Copies of the first number of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN were sent to all the members of the Board and Council, to the Local Agents, to all the Signers, and to about sixteen hundred newspapers. The responses have been numerous, and they are still coming in. In many cases individual friends of the cause have sent one dollar for ten subscriptions in the names of specified persons, most of whom are not Signers. In this way the subject of rational spelling reform has been brought for the first time to the attention of many additional minds, and the number of Signers is likely to be largely increased.

In order to renew the information and to spread it more widely, the Board has decided to send copies of No. 2 to all the Signers who have not yet subscribed, and to many other persons interested.

It will be understood that all subscriptions received now are for the first year, including No. 1 and the present No. 2, even when the paper has been sent free in advance of the subscription. The subscription is very low, and it is more convenient to have the term begin with the first number, unless the subscriber specifies that it shall begin with a later number.

Persons who have subscribed and who may have failed to receive a copy of No. 1, may obtain it by sending word to the Board.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING ALLIANCE

Many friends of simplification have responded to the invitation contained in the first number of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, and have signified their willingness to join the proposed Simplified Spelling Alliance.

Plans for the Alliance are under consideration. They will probably take definite shape within the next three months. In the meantime all Signers and other friends of the cause who have not yet

signified their willingness to join the Alliance when it shall be organized are invited to do so. The annual dues will probably be one dollar, but until the Alliance is organized and the details are fixed, only names, not money, should be sent.

## PREACHING AND PRACTIS

It has been asserted, and sometimes with not a little asperity, that the advocates of simplified spelling do not themselves practise what they preach, and that in their own publications they do not act up to the precepts they are laying down for others.

The immediate answer to this is to remind the objectors that a contributor to a newspaper or magazine has no control over the orthographic presentation of his article. What he may contribute is habitually printed in accord with the "office rules" of the periodical, whatever these may be. Even in his own books he may yield to the desire of his publishers, who have business reasons for desiring to conform to what they believe to be the prejudices of their customers.

Now and again, however, authors are in a position to insist on having their preferences regarded, and to demand the privilege of appearing before the public in their own way and with their own spelling. Landor, for example, was eager to make known his own mind and to take his own medicine; and he was careful to see that his past participles appeared in the old simple forms, *askt*, *dropt*, *linkt*, *toucht*, and so forth. In the volume of selections from Landor in the "Golden Treasury Series," the editor confesses that he tampered with Landor's spelling, and changed *linkt* to *linked*. Tennyson was scrupulous in spelling *stept*, *snapt*, *tipt*, *tost*, *dropt*, *fixt*. Even Longfellow and Lowell and Whittier succeeded sometimes in securing the permission of the Boston printers to use such spellings as *vext*, *ript*, *tost*.

The indomitable Dr. Furnivall, in his new edition of Shakespeare, has been particular to maintain the common sense spellings which he has long advocated and joyfully used. Richard Watson Gilder in his "Complete Poems" recently issued by Houghton, Mifflin & Company, has followed the example of Tennyson; and so has Percy Mackaye in his "Jeanne d'Arc" (1907) and his "Ode on the Centenary of Abraham Lincoln" (1909).

Professor Brander Matthews used the original Three Hundred simpler forms in his volume of essays called "Inquiries and Opinions," published two years ago; and in his new volume, to appear in October, "The American of the Future and

other Essays," he has gone further and used the simpler past participles, *distinguisht*, *publisht*, *fixt*, in accord with the precedent set by Landor.

Professor Calvin Thomas has also employed many of the simplifications in his popular German grammar. Professor G. P. Krapp, who has just been cald to Columbia to fill a newly establisht professorship of the English Language, has also shown the orthografic faith that is in him in his volume on "Modern English," just issued by the Scribners.

It is unreasonable to insist that writers who favor an improved spelling are debard thereby from any use of the common spelling. If a man wishes to convey his ideas to any part of the public, he uses any spelling that will best effect his particular purpose—old spelling or new, English spelling or French, script or print. A wise man considers his public, his publisher, and the other obstacles, and acts accordingly.

### A TEST OF CRITICISM

When you see any article in print making any statement adverse to simplified spelling or criticizing the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Board, ask yourself what qualifications the writer of the article, or the editor of the newspaper in which it appears, probably possesses for expressing an opinion upon the subject. Notis also whether the article contains any evidence of first-hand knowl-edge, or of candid investigation, or of ability to reason, or of willingness to be curteous or truthful.

If the spellings that a newspaper ascribes to the Simplified Spelling Board appear to you undesirable or injudicious, ask yourself first whether the statements as printed are true. If you wish to get at the truth, ask yourself whether it would not be better to send to the Simplified Spelling Board for authentic information as to its proposals and for the pamphlets in which the different phases of simplified spelling are explaind, than to depend wholly upon a chance article in a newspaper, or to depend at all upon a newspaper which you may see, by inspection of its other colums, to be by no means an authority in matters of learning or a model of reasonableness, curtesy or truthfulness in the discussion of public matters.

Simplified spelling is an intellectual idea, and can not be understood except by an intellectual process. The proposals of the advocates of simplified spelling can not be criticized with advantage until it is known what those proposals are. Do not accept statements in hostile newspapers as accurate reproductions of the opinions and proposals of the Simplified Spelling Board. Apply to hedquarters.

### LEGALITY OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLINGS

Some newspaper writers, and even some lawyers (who ought to know better), appear to think that the use of any simplified spellings in an official document, or in a letter or application address to public officials, in some mysterious way vitiates the whole document and makes it "illegal." It is reported from Baltimore that a municipal board solemnly sat upon an official report in which the spelling *thru* occurd. Happily the board was largely composed of intelligent persons, who decided that the use of *thru* did not impair the validity of the report.

All lawyers who know their business know that it is a well-settled principle that any spelling of a word which, when pronounced, has the same sound as the conventional spelling, is good in law. As a matter of fact, most of the existing laws were past and promulgated in a spelling different from that which now prevails; so that, if a difference of spelling would render them illegal, the existing citizens of the United States and of the British Empire would have a legal right to commit almost any crime in the calendar.

Even those persons who think it worth while to observe the Constitution of the United States are observing it in a partly alterd and therefore "illegal" spelling. When the people or their representatives "choose" electors, senators or other officers, they are—according to certain learned scribes of the press and some kindergarten lawyers—doing something "illegal"; because the Constitution as signd by George Washington in 1787 spells the word "chuse."

The logical deduction from this is that the whole existing government of the United States is illegal; therefore we may all do as we please; therefore we may all spell as we please. Q. E. D.

### FOR INSTANCE

Let those who dout the legal efficacy of simplified spelling consider if the following notis, posted on a tree by an irate farmer of Monmouth County, Kentucky, could be more efficacious if speld "according to Webster." Let them picture the fate of the hunter who presumed to disregard the warning on the ground that it violated "accepted literary conventions."

### NOTIS

Trespasers will B persecuted to the full extent of 2 mean mungrel dogs which aint never been overly soshibul to strangers, and 1 dubbel barl shot gun which aint loaded with soft pillors.

## CHRISTIAN WORK AND SPELLING

*Christian Work and the Evangelist* has been using a good many simplified spellings, and announces its intention to increase the number as rapidly as its readers find them acceptable. There appears to be no opposition, beyond the more or less humorous objections of some theologians of the old school, who regard English spelling as of Sinai origin. The editor, Dr. Joseph Newton Hallock, when a student at Yale, assisted Professor Chauncey A. Goodrich, the son-in-law of Noah Webster, in the revision of "Webster's Dictionary"—the volume which appeared some years later, in 1864, under the editorship of Dr. Noah Porter.

Dr. Hallock has written various articles on simplified spelling, which have been reprinted in other religious journals. An article of his, entitled "The Simplified Spelling Movement," was printed in *The Examiner*, July 1, 1909, p. 816, and in *The Christian Intelligencer*, August 4, 1909, p. 494.

Among the doctors of divinity who have taken part in the debate is one who vehemently protests against any alteration of the spelling of *through*. "That *ugh*," he says, "gives me always the sturdy old Dutch meaning, which I hopelessly lose in the clipped word." (*Christian Work and the Evangelist*, August 22, 1909). What "the sturdy Dutch meaning" of *through* is, he does not tell; but we are sure that it would be a pity to lose it. To lose what never existed would be deplorable. This sturdy old conservativ may not know that the sturdy old Dutchmen reformed their spelling long ago; and that the Dutch word for *through* is *door*, which has completely dropt the ancient sound and letter answering to the English *gh*.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING IN AUSTRALIA

Dr. Thomas G. Tucker, professor of comparativ philology in the University of Melbourne, Australia, who with Sir Robert Stout, Chief Justice of New Zealand, constitutes at present the membership of the Simplified Spelling Board in the Southern hemisphere, has written a vigorous letter approving the principles and policy of the Board. He promises to exert himself to promote the cause in Australia, and sends a copy of an address on "Phonetic Spelling," made by him in 1907 before the Bankers' Institute and the Training College of Melbourne, in which the subject is presented in a candid manner. It was printed as a supplement to the *Education Gazette and Teachers' Aid*, August 20, 1907.

It is expected to form, in due time, in the Australian Commonwealth, an organization that shall be virtually a new Simplified Spelling Board, cooperating both with the American Board and with the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain.

## PROGRESS IN GREAT BRITAIN

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, which has been organized to work in sympathy with the Simplified Spelling Board on this side of the Atlantic, is steadily increasing its membership.

The Society is attracting to its assistance many distinguisht Englishmen in many different walks of life. As might have been expected, its earliest members include the chief British scholars who have devoted themselves to the study of the English language. Sir James Murray and Dr. Henry Bradley, the editors of the great Oxford Dictionary, Professor W. W. Skeat, the editor of the Etymological Dictionary, and professor of Anglo-Saxon at Cambridge, Dr. F. J. Furnivall, the founder of the Chaucer Society, Dr. A. S. Napier, professor of English at Oxford, Dr. H. C. K. Wyld, professor of English at the University of Liverpool—these were all early in allying themselves with the British movement for simple spelling.

Among the prominent British men of letters who have shown their belief in the necessity of simplifying English spelling are the Right Honorable James Bryce, the British Ambassador to the United States, Prof. Edward Dowden, Alfred W. Pollard, William Archer, Thomas Seccombe, Prof. G. C. Moore Smith, Sir Frederick Pollock and David Salmon.

Chief among the men of science who have become members of the Simplified Spelling Society is Sir William Ramsay. Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace has again exprest his approval of the reform.

Special interest attaches to the appeal which the new movement has made to the classical scholars. Dr. Walter Leaf, the collaborator with Mr. Lang in translating Homer, and Prof. J. W. Mackail, of Oxford, are members of the new Society; and Prof. Gilbert Murray, of Oxford, is a member of its managing Committee.

Oxford, indeed, which was once cald "the home of lost causes," is likely to become a center of the new movement in England. Sir James Murray and Dr. Bradley are there at work on the monumental dictionary, and Dr. Napier, professor of the English language, is there maintaining the

fine traditions of British scholarship in the investigation and exposition of Anglo-Saxon philology.

The offices of the Society are at No. 44 Great Russell Street, London, W. C.

## THE YOUNGER GENERATION

Godfrey Dewey, Harvard '09, delivered an address on "Old English Spelling," as part of the commencement exercises of Harvard University, held in Sanders Theater, July 31, 1909. He took the stand that our present spelling offers the chief obstacle to the spread of English as the dominant language. The *Boston Transcript*, July 31, p. 3, quoted the address in full. We reprint the following extracts:

The present actively renewed effort to simplify and systematize our English spelling involves live issues and practical problems. It is more than a mere academic discussion that has leagued together the leading linguistic scientists both here and abroad, and rallied to their support an army of 30,000 individuals, largely from the teaching and other professions, together with hundreds of periodicals and institutions. . . .

Our language is speech, not spelling. The spelling is no more than a picture, too often grossly distorted, of the spoken word. . . .

The serious obstacle encountered is not the array of arguments, all readily refuted. It is the inertia which dreads the effort of the change, the dislike and temporary annoyance of unfamiliar forms. . . .

The coming generation will have no preconceived prejudices in favor of spellings which ought to be discarded. Indeed, children . . . will count rational word forms among their earliest impressions and will find the old and not the new to be grotesque.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SPELLING REFORM

The Simplified Spelling Board has been preparing a bibliography of the literature of spelling reform and of works on pronunciation and fonetics. Readers are requested to send to the office any information of books or articles upon the subject, pro or con, with exact particulars of author, title, date, etc. It is particularly desired to have references to articles *adverse* to simplified spelling, that is, articles of some apparent weight and substance, in which the reform is opposed, but in which the subject is discussed with some knowledge, and in the style and manner customary among scholars. A five-inch shelf is waiting for such articles. There is, of course, an immense amount of matter printed against simplified spelling; but most of it does not come within the above description.

## A VALUABLE BY-PRODUCT

Simplified spelling will doubtless lead to the use of more simple words.—THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The fourth edition of the "List of Members of the Advisory Council," published June 25, 1909, contains 189 names. The four States having the largest representation in the Council are New York with 33, Pennsylvania with 17, and Maryland and Illinois each with 13 members. Several States—Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Texas and Virginia—have only two members. Some have only one. The States and Territories not yet represented are Arkansas, North Carolina, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, Oklahoma, Utah, West Virginia.

This disproportionate representation is due to the fact that in some States the movement is more active and the friends of the cause are better known. Thus the geographic distribution of the members of the Council agrees with the local strength of the movement rather than with the number of inhabitants of the States represented. Wherever the movement gains strength, the members of the Council will be increased. But it is desirable that every State should be represented, and that the number of members in certain States should be increased. With these ends in view, friends of the cause are requested to send to the Executive Committee, nominations of persons for the Advisory Council, with a statement in each instance of the qualifications and public status of the nominee. Some such nominations have been made, and will be acted on in due time.

The qualifications for membership in the Council are that the person shall have a thorough belief both in the principle and in the practice of simplified spelling, *now*; that he shall have a definite standing as a professional man or man of affairs; and that he shall be a person of some influence in his community. Women are equally eligible. Two are now in the Council. There should be more.

The Board and the Council together already include many of the most eminent scholars, educators and men of letters in the country; and, with the additions that may be expected in the near future, may be regarded as a truly representative body. This body has no authority except that of men who understand the particular subject and are regarded by the public interested as competent to express opinion and to give advice upon it. If weight of numbers and extent of knowledge and experience are considered as "authority," it may be said that the simplified spelling of English has more "authority" behind it than the conventional spelling.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, President of the Simplified Spelling Board, Colonel Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer, and Professor James W. Bright, a member of the Board, separately visited England this summer, and were in frequent consultation with the leaders of the Simplified Spelling Society in London.

Motorists believe in time-saving methods. The *Roadbook* of the Automobile Club of America has joined the simplified spelling movement.

Several university professors have announced their intention to use simplified spelling in books now in preparation, and have written to the Board for the list of the simplified spellings and for advice as to the degree in which it may be judicious to introduce them now in books of instruction.

More than one thousand of the four thousand men included in Dr. J. McKeen Cattell's biographies of "American Men of Science" (1904) have signed the agreement to use the simpler spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board.

The List of Local Agents and the List of Speakers for the simplification of spelling, mentioned in *Simplified Spelling Bulletin* No. 1, page 7, were duly published June 26 and 28, and may be had by any one who asks for them. The Executive Committee has also published a *Calendar* of its meetings for the next year, which has been sent to the Board and Council.

Dr. E. L. Scharf, of Washington, D. C., uses simplified spelling in a little work called "The Metaphysics of Baseball."

Harper & Brothers have in press, for publication October 1, 1909, a new work on the English language, with special reference to English spelling, by Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale University, President of the Simplified Spelling Board. The book will be entitled "English Spelling and Spelling Reform." The author treats his subject in his well-known style, and leaves no room for doubt of his opinion of those amiable medievalists who in the name of literature and scholarship oppose the reformation of our present "system" of spelling.

B. Russell Herts, editor of *Moods*, the new bi-monthly "magazine of personality," has adopted simplified spelling forms in his periodical.

*The Round Table*, published at Beloit College, Wisconsin, issued a "Simplified Spelling Number" on April 30, reprinting in full from the *Outlook* of April 19, the article on "Simplified Spelling and

Fonetic Reform," by Brander Matthews, and employing with considerable success in the body of the magazine the simplified forms recommended by the Board.

## OPEN-MINDED NEWSPAPERS

The following editorial paragraph, reprinted from the Norfolk, Va., *Landmark*, of July 25, 1909, shows a liberal attitude toward orthography on the part not only of that journal but of the Columbia, S. C., *State*, which suggests, in the item quoted by the *Landmark*, a practical method of determining the controversy between the Norfolk newspaper and its "blue-back" critics:

"The Norfolk *Landmark* is in trouble with the blue-back spellers. Probably the best way to settle the dispute is to have a spelling bee between the *Landmark* and the blue-back spellers."—Columbia *State*.

All right [replies the *Landmark*], provided the judges are broad, big spellers who know all the allowable ways of spelling. We should be unwilling to engage in any spelling contest not under the management of great scholars, catchers really competent to hold our delivery.

## "HARK, FROM THE TOMB!"

"Simple spelling is here to stay," said the marble cutter. "Some of it, anyway, is going to stay a while, because I am carving it on tombstones, and those inscriptions are not going to wear away in a hurry. Three epitaphs in the last month have I spelled in the latest style. It went against the grain to do it, too. The first was long enough and flowery enough to have been composed by Mr. Sapsea himself. It sounded all right, but when I saw the spelling I set it down as the work of some person who had mislaid his dictionary, so what did I do but correct those words according to Webster. That liberty with the author's orthography nearly lost me the job. The deceased had lived and died a simple speller; as a simple speller he wished to be remembered, and I was ordered by his relatives to restore the corrected words to their simplest form. I did, and henceforward on all simply spelled epitaphs I shall carefully 'follow copy.'"

—The Sun, New York, June 7, 1909.

## IT MIGHT TAKE A BULLET OR TU

When Roosevelt has nothing to do  
He might take a shot at the gnu.

To knock off the G  
Would fill him with glee,  
And wouldn't embarrass the nu.

—CHARLES R. ANGELL in *Puck*.

When you have read this number thru, show your interest in the cause by sending 10 cents, for a year's subscription, to the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York.

Show it more strongly by sending one dollar and the names and addresses of nine other persons to whom you wish the BULLETIN sent for a year.

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. I

DECEMBER 1909

No. 3

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Five cents a copy. Annual subscription, ten cents*

## DR. LOUNSBURY'S NEW BOOK

*English Spelling and Spelling Reform.* By  
THOMAS R. LOUNSBURY, LL.D., L.H.D. New  
York : Harper and Brothers, 1909. Price, \$1.50.

This book can be most cordially recommended to all who wish to inform themselves on the subject of Spelling. It is the work of an eminent scholar who has devoted his life to the study of the English language. He writes of matters that he has carefully investigated, and he writes clearly and forcibly. In terms that leave nothing to be desired in point of artistic literary vigor, he pays his respects to the pretentious ignorance that stalketh at noonday and puffeth itself up with vain imaginings. But if he does not disguise his opinions, he gives the data on which the opinions rest. The expository part of the book is a mine of facts that ought to be known and taken into consideration by every one who presumes to instruct the public or even to have an opinion about orthography.

Professor Lounsbury anticipates that some will be offended by his plain speaking. Probably he is right; but what a pity! The natural effect of the book should be to produce in the sinner a conviction of sin, if not a mood of prayer and repentance. But alas! only a few rare spirits can rise to the height of enjoying a public exhortation—no matter how deftly it is done—when it is their own skin that is undergoing removal. And yet the virtue is one that is worth cultivating, and we earnestly commend it to our friends the enemy.

The beginning of philosophy is to learn to philosophize about one's own habits and prejudices. As long as one assumes that his own way of doing things is of course the right way, his own habit the only respectable habit; as long as he is offended by something new merely because it is

new and looks odd to his unaccustomed eye, so long he must expect to be more or less vilipended by men who study, compare, reflect, prove all things and hold fast that which is good.

There is one way, and only one, in which the ignorant educated can escape the unmasking batteries of the intelligent reformer. They should go to work and post themselves with regard to spelling. They should learn at least the a b c of the subject. It is not enough to have a reputation in Greek, or Latin, or psychology; one has got to know something about spelling—about English spelling.

The questions involved in any scheme of spelling reform that is worthy of the attention of intelligent men are more or less difficult. They require long and careful study—at least some of them do. The vast majority of those who assail simplified spelling in the public prints show forthwith that they do not know what they are talking about, and have never given any intelligent consideration to the subject. *Es ist zum Lachen.* And sometimes, in sheer mental bankruptcy, they express their abhorrence of "personally conducted evolutions." As if there ever had been, or ever could be, any other kind of evolution, in matters involving human nature and human practice!

Nov. 23, 1909.

C. T.

## PROFIT AND PLEASURE

I have just read BULLETIN No. 2 with profit and pleasure. In the first place, it is my "comic" paper; and secondly, it is full of wisdom and instruction. . . . The first BULLETIN impressed me with its appearance of being "normal"; the sporadic occurrences of simplified spelling are easily and pleasantly teaching me how to spell.—HERMAN L. EBELING, professor of Greek in Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y. Extract from a letter to the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board, Sept. 21, 1909.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Dr. R. K. Buehrle, superintendent of the public schools of Lancaster, Penn., uses simplified spellings, including *wil*, *hav*, *wer*, in his official notices. Dr. Buehrle is an educator of long experience, who believes in using modernized spelling in modern times. One of the local papers, however, throws the entire weight of its learning against him by spelling his title "Sooperintendent."

Professor J. K. Light, of the Central State Normal School, Lock Haven, Penn., has forwarded to the Simplified Spelling Board one hundred and five cards signd by students of that institution, agreeing to use simplified spelling.

The Hesser Business College, Manchester, N. H., printed a special edition of the Three Hundred Words. The title-page contains these words: "Simplified Spelling . . . Taught at the Hesser Business College, Manchester, N. H. Our advice: Learn the new but KNOW the old."

The *Normal School Herald*, publisht at the Cumberland Valley State Normal School, Shippensburg, Penn., in the October number (Vol. 14, No. 1, pp. 1-3) contains an article entitled "Fool Ways of Spelling." Thus does it refer to the conventional spelling. We extract the following:

"Our spelling is in the main phonetic. We ordinarily expect to find the sound of words fairly represented by the spelling . . . But there are so many exceptions that the child soon loses all confidence in any judgment he may form as to how a word ought to be spelled . . . It is but natural that he soon becomes suspicious of any spelling that seems simple and easy, and makes desperate attempts at all kinds of strange and grotesque combinations, hoping by some good luck to strike the right formula for the given word. It is quite natural that after being corrected, and probably laughed at, for spelling his thumb *thum* and his toe *to* and his head *hed* and his limb *lim*, he should hesitate to spell his leg by anything so simple and reasonable as *leg*. He is dumfounded and found dumb."

Among the schools into which simplified spelling has lately been introduced are the following: Public Schools of Covington, Ky., H. O. Sluss, Superintendent; High School, Chico, Cal., C. B. Whitmoyer, Principal; Public School of District 82, Litchfield, Ill., W. O. McCullough, Principal.

A neat little manual, entitled "Miner's Business Academy Speller and Guide to Punctuation, fourth edition, compiled and published by Miner's Business Academy, Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Oct., 1909," gives a "Sample Page of Words ac-

ording to New Spelling." The first ten words are *aimd*, *ake*, *aking*, *alfabet*, *allowd*, *annuld*, *attacht*, *autograf*, *begd*, *bilding*; and the last four are *winkt*, *witnest*, *wo*, *wrongd*. These and similar forms are given in the ordinary dictionaries to tell the reader how the words are pronounced; but to *use* these forms, which thus tell the truth, to represent the words, is a dredful innovation.

## ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS

During the last five years the American Academy of Arts and Letters has been carefully selecting its membership. It is intended to do for literature and the fine arts here in the United States what the French Academy does in France for literature alone. It is to gather into a single compact body the leaders in literature and music, in painting and sculpture and architecture.

The Academy is to hold its first public meeting in Washington in the middle of December; and at this meeting important papers will be red by members representing the several arts. President Taft has alrely invited the members to a special reception at the White House in honor of the Academy; and a bill is now pending in Congress to grant a national charter to this representativ body of authors and artists.

The President of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences is William Dean Howells; the Chancellor is Professor William M. Sloane, and the Secretary is Robert Underwood Johnson.

The membership of the new Academy is limited to fifty; and owing to recent deaths there are now several vacancies. At present the Academy contains thirty-one representatives of literature in the several departments of poetry and the drama, fiction and history, criticism and scholarship. Of these thirty-one, six are members of the Simplified Spelling Board—S. L. Clemens, T. W. Higginson, T. R. Lounsbury, Brander Matthews, Theodore Roosevelt and Andrew D. White. Several of the twenty-five other representatives of literature are known to be strongly in favor of the simplified spelling movement, notably John Burroughs, G. W. Cable and W. D. Howells.

Perhaps even more significant is the fact that no one of all the other representatives of literature is on record in any public utterance in opposition to the progressiv amelioration of our orthograpy.

It is interesting to note also that the French Academy, a very conservativ body, organized to have the French language as its special care, has alrely sanctiond a series of orthografic simplifi-

cations not unlike those proposed for English by the Simplified Spelling Board. As yet the British Academy, recently constituted in Great Britain, has not taken any official action in regard to English orthography, other than to appoint a committee. Several of its associates are members also of the Simplified Spelling Society.

## PHILOLOGISTS WHO CAN SPELL

In the last number of the *Transactions of the American Philological Association*, which appeared in September, namely, Vol. 39, on pages 105-119, Professor George Hempl, of Stanford University, a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, has an article entitled (and speld) "The Linguistic and Ethnographic Status of the Burgundians." It contains on the first page the following note: "Wherein the spelling employed in this paper is unusual, it is in accord with the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board; in a few cases only have I carried the simplifications further." In this paper, which presents a new view as to the interpretation of some of the Germanic runes, the following simplifications occur on the first page: *spred, thru, establisht, furnisht, hed, erly, employd*. And so forth to the end.

This is the first paper published in the *Transactions of the American Philological Association* in which the simplifications recommended up to the publication of the Alfabetic List in March, 1909, appear. In earlier volumes of the *Transactions* simplified spellings according to the recommendations of the Philological Association, of whose Committee on Spelling Reform Professor William D. Whitney, and later Professor Francis A. March, was Chairman, were used in papers by Professor March, Professor William B. Owen, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, Professor Hempl, and others.

## SIMPLER SPELLINGS IN BOOKS

To the list of books published in simplified spelling, mentioned in the article entitled "Preaching and Practis" in the September BULLETIN (p. 4), should be added the following:

- CHARLES E. SPRAGUE, A.M., Ph.D., C.P.A. 1. "The Philosophy of Accounts. New York, 1908. Published by the author." 8vo, pp. 161. 2. "The Accountancy of Investment. New York, 1904." 8vo, pp. 148. 3. The same; third edition, including as Part II, "Problems, Studies and Tables." 8vo, pp. 186.

Colonel Sprague, who combines in himself the learning and accomplishments of a philologist, a fonetician, and a political economist, is by occupation a certified public accountant, a university professor

and the president of a savings bank. Incidentally, he is a real colonel, tho he does not practise that profession at present. He is familiar with many tungs, including Yiddish, Volapük, Esperanto, and other "queer" languages (including the queerest of all, in respect to its spelling). He is acquainted with all known varieties of simplified spelling, and has used the rational varieties in his publications and articles for many years. The above books and his articles in technical journals include practically all the simplifications recommended by the Board; tho it would be more fair to Colonel Sprague to say that the Board has adopted some of the simplifications long used and recommended by him.

ALBERT J. EDMUNDS, A.M. "The Buddhist Gospels." First ed., Tokyo, 1906; second ed., Philadelphia and London, 1909.

Mr. Edmunds is an Orientalist whose special work is in Pali and Buddhism. His book deals with parallelisms of thought and expression between the Buddhist writings and the Christian scriptures. He uses many of the simplified spellings recommended by the Philological Societies and the Simplified Spelling Board.

HENRY HOLT. "On the Civic Relations. Boston and New York, 1907." Houghton, Mifflin & Company. In this work *tho* is used.

GEORGE A. TABER, editor. 1. "Proceedings of the Society of Municipal Engineers of the City of New York for 1907. New York, 1908." 2. Same for 1908. New York, 1909.

These volumes accept the whole list of simplified spellings recommended by the Board.

CHARLES WAGNER. "The Home of the Soul. Translated from the French by Laura Sanford Hoffmann, with an introduction by Lyman Abbott, D.D. New York, 1909."

ROBERT MACDONALD. "Mind, Religion and Health, with an Appreciation of the Emmanuel Movement. New York, 1908."

GRENVILLE KLEISER, compiler. "The World's Great Sermons, with introduction by L. O. Brastow, D.D." Ten volumes, copyrighted 1908.

These volumes have spellings like *confest, surprized, crusht, recognized, theater, blest, stopt, altho, wo, exprest*, etc.

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN and FRANCIS W. HALSEY, editors. "The World's Famous Orations. New York." Copyrighted 1906.

These volumes bristle with *tho*.

The books under the last four titles are all published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company. These publishers use simplified spelling, to a greater or less extent, in the books they publish, unless the authors prefer to retain the older spelling.

Our readers will confer a favor if they will send us the titles of any books containing simplified spellings.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

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## "INCONSISTENCY"

Charges of inconsistency have been brought against the spelling used in the BULLETIN and other publications of the Simplified Spelling Board.

It has been the policy of the Board to use at any given time only those simplified spellings that have been formally adopted up to that time by the Board and the Advisory Council. Thus a reader may find in some of the publications simplified spellings that are not found in others. This may seem inconsistent at first sight; but the inconsistency will disappear when the reader recognizes that the difference is merely chronologic, and that the fault lies, not in the spellings proposed by the Board from time to time, but in the old spellings which the Board has not yet undertaken to simplify.

Again, many words contain two or more letters or groups of letters subject to simplifications by different rules, adopted at different times. In this way, a given word may undergo two or more progressive simplifications, and may appear in different spellings in successive publications. These diverse spellings are retained, of course, in reprinting the publications from electrotypes plates, even after other and more comprehensive rules have been adopted.

This policy has been found convenient to all concerned, and has led many thousands from the timid boldness of accepting the Three Hundred Words to the serene acceptance of three thousand simplifications without any shock. The same policy is followed in respect to the correspondence of the office; but as there is no permanent value in any stage of the transition toward rational spelling, the members and officers of the Board feel free to use additional simplifications whenever they seem appropriate. Even in the official publications additional simplifications may be used now and then to serve an obvious purpose.

Advocates of simplified spelling hold themselves free to use any spelling whatever, old or new,

conventional or reformed, which their judgment approves for the purpose in question. Spelling is merely an instrument, and may be used in any form, in any way, that will best serve the user's purpose. The reasonable limitation is that the person who takes the liberty to spell as he pleases shall please to spell in accordance with the advice of the learned and the dictates of reason.

## A LITTLE LEVEN

Some opponents of simplified spelling contrast the entire body of spelling reformers, whom they count anywhere from three to a million, with the eighty millions of human beings in the United States, and ask how long it will take before the seventy-nine millions are converted at the same rate. They may admit that several thousand teachers use simplified spelling, but they point out that many more thousands of teachers do not use it.

What hope would there be for any reform or public measure, if it had to wait for success until every man in the country had declared himself, or had made up his mind, or was duly informed? All public causes have leaders, who act and speak with the support of a few thousand other persons who are especially interested; and these together succeed, if they succeed at all, rather by the silent assent or indifference of the multitude, than by the personal enthusiasm of every member of the multitude. Principles are always propounded, new facts are always established, by a minority.

In this matter of spelling reform, the contending parties are only a few thousand on each side. On the reform side is a strong party of the best educated persons, the teachers, the men of science, the professed scholars, the literary writers and editors, the men of business who also think of the public welfare; and the judges of the contest are the rest of the same educated classes. When such men are informed of the case, and perceive the principle involved, their judgment is won.

## "THE OLD-FASHIONED WEBSTER"

An amusing feature of the opposition to the movement to regulate English spelling is the frequent assertion on the part of the opponents that they are content with the "old-fashioned Webster spelling."

The Simplified Spelling Board is accused of "editing Webster", of "paring down Webster", of "making assaults upon Webster's Dictionary", of trying "to compel people who are familiar with

their Webster to learn a new-fangled spelling," and so on.

These sturdy conservatives are of course quite ignorant of the nature or origin of Webster's Dictionary, and of the attitude of Noah Webster himself toward the reform of English spelling. It is encouraging to persons who are well informed to know that the spelling reformer who three generations ago was attacked as a ruthless anarchist, an enemy of English literature and of the English language, whose ideas are still the subject of bitter assault by some really "old-fashioned" persons, is to-day regarded by the defenders of the spelling that is now orthodox, as their high priest and prophet, whose name is to be invoked against the radicals and innovators!

The fact is amusing, but there is an other side to it. It must be appalling to the leaders of the reform in the present day to think that eighty years hence they also may be invoked as the patron saints of medievalism, and as the types of intellectual and literary stagnation, against the reformers of the future.

### A CONTRAST

A good many persons—some said two millions—lately celebrated in New York and along the banks of the Hudson River the exploits of Henry Hudson and Robert Fulton in discovery and invention. There appeared on the shining waters of the Hudson River two quaint boats: one made in exact imitation of the Half Moon, on which Hudson sailed up the river in 1609; the other, a facsimile of the Clermont, the first successful steamboat, on which Fulton sailed up the same river in 1807. The two little crafts lookt 'queer' to the multitude; and many spectators smiled in superior wisdom. But no one was heard to denounce the men who, after Hudson, proposed, and made, better and larger ships than the little Half Moon, or those who, after Fulton, devised, and built, better and larger steamboats than the little Clermont. On the contrary, everybody seemed glad that successive improvements had been made in these conveniences of life, and there were many speeches in eulogy of the men who had proposed and made the improvements.

In English spelling, an other human invention, the case is quite different. As it happened to be in the time of Hudson—and Shakespeare—so it ought to be for ever. No improvement should be permitted. Our spelling should be kept for ever at the point of perfection which it attained in the time of Hudson and Shakespeare, and which it has

maintained ever since—as those familiar with the spelling of Hudson and Shakespeare are well aware—to the exceeding satisfaction of all true friends of literature, etymology, and education, and to the infinit delight of all children who are privileged to learn it.

### TO REFORMERS WITH PLANS

Many correspondents who wish to promote the idea of simplified spelling, or to make known to its friends their personal ideas upon the subject, or to propose new schemes for simplification or for fonetic notation, send a single letter or manuscript to the office of the Board, asking that it be "communicated" to the members of the Board and Council. Such communications, if important, are brought before the Executive Committee; but it is impossible to submit them to all the members of the Board and Council, without making at least 235 copies.

The Secretary desires us to call the attention of persons who wish to reach the Board and the Council with their ideas, to the proper process to pursue. It is this:

Formulate your suggestion, or proposal, or argument, or scheme, on paper. Revise it. Then submit it to at least three or four friends who add to their personal knowledge of the author some knowledge of the subject, or at least some knowledge of literary or scientific methods. Then put the paper, or (if it is long) a conspectus of it, into type—large type, open lines. Then revise the proofs. Then print several hundred copies of it, and send 300 copies to the office of the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York. The copies will then be sent to all the members of the Board and of the Council, to the Local Agents, and to some other reformers interested.

If the paper contains a discussion, argument, or scheme of any length, it should contain a statement that the writer has consulted some of the works of other scholars, specifying the authors, titles and dates. When the views of other persons are mentioned in the course of the paper, an exact reference to the passage in mind should be given. When the views are quoted, quote the exact words and the exact spelling used.

These elementary rules are usually followed by philological and other scientific writers, particularly in papers proposing definite action. Reformers who neglect these rules can not expect to gain that amount of attention without which their plans, no matter how good they may be, will come to nought.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

Aid to the simplified spelling movement is coming abundantly from an unexpected quarter. This unlookt for and uninvited assistance is rendered by a host of advertizers all over the United States, who are helping the cause not the less efficiently because unconsciously.

One great obstacle to the simpler forms arises from the fact that most of those who have given no thought to the subject seem to believe that there is a standard orthography unchanged and unchanging thruout the ages. They are so accustomed to the absurdity of our current spelling that they are not even conscious of its absurdity. They accept our orthography as they learnt it.

Anything that calls their attention to this absurdity, tends to open their eyes. This is what many advertizers are doing in their efforts to find for their wares names that will strike the eye, if not stun the sensibilities. When the man who runs as he reads catches sight of an advertisement vaunting the merits of a shoulder-brace cald "Nulyfe," he is forced for once to take note of the ordinary spelling of *new life*. A similar thing happens when he is offered "Sox at a Dollar a Box," or "The Box that Lox," and when he is urged to buy the "Kleanwell Toothbrush," or "Knotair Hosiery." It is true that this last advertisement is unduly complicated in its orthography; yet it serves a purpose in pointing out the absolute uselessness of the *k* before *no*, and the folly of maintaining *-air*, *-ear*, *-are*, *-eir* for the same sounds. So "Hygrade" underwear, "Hy-Rib Roofs and Sidings" and "Hi-Lo Desks" hint that the *gh* is unessential to *high* and the *w* superfluous in *low*.

"Sealshipt Oysters" should commend themselves orthographically, at least, to inland lovers of the bivalv. *Coat* becomes *kote* in several preparations of a superficially preservativ nature, as in "Carbonkote", "Concrekote", and, in a Latinized form, in "Sankota" ('sanitary coat'). One advertiser bids us preserv our fruits in glass jars with the "Atlas E-Z Seal"; an other tells that his shoes give "Comfort and EEEE."

A remedy for hedake and other akes is cald "Selery Soda." This is probably so speld to make the alliterativ sound seem obvious to the sight; but the alliterator bilded better than he knew; for it happens that the *c* in *celery* is an orthografic mistake in French and English. The Latin is *selinon*, the Greek is *selinon*. It occurs, disguised, but with the correct *s*, in *parsley*, which is the Latin and Greek *petroselinon*, 'rock selery.'

Again, in "Asfaltoil", an advertized preparation, the spelling *asfalt* is quite right, both from the simplified and the etymologic point of view. The Latin transcription of the Greek word was as often *asfaltus*, *asfaltum*, as *asphaltus*, etc. It is commonly assumed that there is a *ph* in the original Greek. This is the original Greek: ΑΣΦΑΛΤΟΣ. Where is the *ph*?

The precious *ph* is passing away. New inventions appear as this *-fone* and that *-graf*. The Eden Musée, of New York, names among its attractions the "Fotofone." Artists in sunlight have long made "FOTOGRAFS", in painted capitals, a sign of their prophession.

Of course, not all of these changes are simplifications. But they show infant reason at large. Such gambols help the work of enlightenment and emancipation. A spelling that thus yields itself to every caprice must be a weak thing.

## A LETTER AND ITS MORAL

A gentleman of South Carolina wrote to Professor Patterson Wardlaw, a member of the Advisory Council and an activ agent for the reform in that state, under date of September 15, as follows:

"I received the pamphlets on spelling reform that I know you sent, because I cannot even forget your handwriting.

"They proved deeply interesting to me and I believe I am almost converted. Perhaps I had never expressed my opinion, but all my feelings rebelled against the reform as I understood it from the newspapers. These papers you sent me put the whole thing in quite a different light, and I hope to keep up with the movement and to take an active interest in it in the future."

The moral of this is: Do not draw your information about simplified spelling from ignorant or prejudist sources. Get it from the Simplified Spelling Board or from its responsible spokesmen.

## SPELLING AND THE LAW

The article in the last BULLETIN entitled "Legality of Simplified Spellings", has evoked from a judge in the State of Washington this inquiry: "If the legal sufficiency of a document is made to depend on the 'style' of its orthography, where, oh, where, will the average lawyer land?"

The point is well taken; and the judge no dout thought of an other case, which professional curtesy prevented him from citing. If the legal sufficiency of a judge's decision is made to depend on the personal orthography of the judge, where will the average judge land?

## IN THE NEWSPAPER WORLD

The *Evening Post* and its weekly edition, the *Nation*, approve the following simpler spellings which are included in the list of preferred spellings printed in the manual, "Typography of the Evening Post, New York, June 1, 1900", p. 1: *Clue, develop, distil, draft* beside *draught, fulfil, good-by, instil, skilful, wilful, woful*. They also spell *Erzerum, Fayum, Khartum, ruble, Rumania, Sudan*, etc., thus, and not in the French fashion, *Erzeroum*, etc. A later edition of the manual may be expected to make further advances toward simplification, in accordance with the recommendations of the scholars whose opinions and views on other matters the *Evening Post* and the *Nation* so largely reflect, and whose contributions they accept as authoritative. In the mean time, these two journals still retain such queer old spellings as *comptroller, programme, centre, meagre, biassed*, etc.

Some system of phonetic spelling will be evolved in time, but it will take time. A consideration of the subject is going to shorten the time, and every magazine and writer who uses reformed spelling of any kind is helping just so much to bring that happy day.—ELISABETH ATWOOD in the *Evening Mail*, New York, Nov. 8, 1909.

Why not have some happiness to-day, by using some simplified spelling *now*? Reformers ought not to put the day of improvement far off. "Begin, begin, the mystic spell prepare!"

Professor J. Paul Goode, professor of economic geography in the University of Chicago, and expert investigator for the Chicago Harbor Commission, is the author of an article which appeared in the *Chicago Record Herald* of August 29, 1909. It was headed by the editor: "Chicago—A City of Destiny. Its Hinterland Is the Richest on Earth, and It Is to Become the World's Greatest Entrepot." With a clear view of Destiny in other directions, the editor allows the professor to spell his article, which is ten feet long, in simplified spelling.

But can we foresee that people will ever tolerate "progressiv"? Is there any derivative excuse for "paragraf"? Certainly not.—*Courier-Citizen*, Lowell, Mass., Oct. 7, 1909.

We sadly admit that there is no "derivative excuse" for "paragraf." By the way, what is a "derivative excuse"? And must all spellings have one? And is there *any* excuse for "paragraph"? *Paragraf* needs no excuse; but if any one wants ancient sanction for modern reason, let him consider that in Shakespeare's time the word was often spelt *paragraf*, or *paragrafe*, or *paragraffe*. It was also pronounced and spelt *paraffe*.

The benighted inhabitants of Italy and Spain to this day spell it with an *f*. And the Greeks never speld it with a *ph*. We offer a reward for any instance of the word speld in Greek with a *ph*.

## "A LETTER TO TEACHERS"

Circular No. 24, "Simplified Spelling—A Letter to Teachers," was mailed in October to nearly sixty thousand teachers in public schools above the third grade, including principals and superintendents. Inclosed with each circular were a printed letter and two cards—a regular card of agreement, and an other card containing the following three questions, to which replies were requested:

1. Do you favor the idea of teaching simplified spellings as proper and permissible alternatives to the spellings now in general use?
2. Do you approve the use of simplified spellings in books, magazines, and newspapers?
3. Do you think the time is come for publishers to provide text-books in which the simplified spellings are employed?

Answers are coming in every day. So far about 80 per cent of the answers are in the affirmative to all three questions. Of the remaining 20 per cent, about one-half give "Yes" to the first two questions, but either "No" or something equivalent to "Doutful" to the third. Only about 10 per cent of the answers are in the negative to all three questions. Many of the teachers who do not reply are no doubt adverse; but they are evidently not zealously adverse, or they would say so.

## "HONOUR" OR PROGRESS?

On the same day in October, 1909, there came to the Simplified Spelling Board two contrasting pieces of information.

From New York: At a fashionable school in Central New York, a little girl "has been repeatedly sent to the foot of the class for spelling *honor* instead of *honour*".

From California: An expectant high school graduate who had "acquired the simplified spelling habit", wrote to the professor of English in an important university, asking whether he would be allowed to continue that habit in the university. The professor replied in substance: "Certainly—spell that way all you like. We wish to encourage it. Why not get up a leag of other high school and college students to push the reform?"

There is the issue: Shall it be "prunes and prisms", dictated by fashionable ignorance; or progress, guided by scientific learning?

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

William Archer, the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, came to New York to be present at the opening of the New Theater, November 6. He gives a good report of the Simplified Spelling Society. Mr. Archer is engaged, with Professor Skeat, the President, and Professor Walter Rippmann, in preparing a general statement of the whole question, for the guidance of the Society. He sailed for home November 20.

Professor Brander Matthews spoke on simplified spelling before the Graduates' Club of the University of Cincinnati on November 10.

Jules Jusserand, the Ambassador of the French Republic, has published the third volume of his "Literary History of the English People" (G. P. Putnam's Sons). It deals with the Elizabethan drama, and it contains many quotations from the original text, always conscientiously reproduced in the Elizabethan orthography. The distinguished French scholar is careful to employ two simplified spellings, *rime* and *eclog*, both of which words occur frequently in his pages.

The *Manual Training Magazine* (Peoria, Ill.) announces (Oct. 1909, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 64) that it begins "the use of the simplified spellings known as the Twelve Words, adopted by the National Education Association." "But these words," it adds, "do not represent the scope of our desire for reform in spelling."

Professor V. Karapetoff, professor of electrical engineering in Cornell University, publishes in the October number of the *Sibley Journal of Engineering* (pp. 1-14) an address on "Some Life Ideals." It is printed according to the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board, with some additions, like *hav*, *woud*, *frend*, *simpathy*, *thot*, *remors*. Hitherto the Simplified Spelling Board has spelled without "remors"; but it will no doubt some day express its "simpathy" with the general "thot" indicated in Professor Karapetoff's motion for more simplifications.

Mr. Charles L. Bonney, Secretary of the Half Million Club of Jacksonville, Florida, and his collaborators there for progress and numbers, are using in their publications all the simplifications recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. Their leaflets and folders bristle with pungent arguments for the revision and enlargement of Jacksonville. Sometimes they call it "Jaxonvil"; whereat the seven sleepers of that future metropolis wake up and protest. "Jaxonvil" expresses the actual

pronunciation—a horrid fact in itself—and it hurts the feelings of persons who have comfortably survived the spelling Dixon for Dickson, Dix for Dicks, Cox for Cocks, coxon or coxswain for cockswain, and who do not know that persons named Jaxon have lived useful and happy lives. But the Simplified Spelling Board is not inciting rebellion against the conventional spellings of proper names. Spell the common words in a rational manner, and all these things shall be added unto you.

Professor Emerson, of Western Reserve University, a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, delivered an address on "The Movement for Simplified Spelling" before the Buckeye Press Association at Springfield, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1909. The address is printed in the *Buckeye Informer* for September, 1909, pp. 189-196.

Many readers of the BULLETIN have already agreed to join the proposed Simplified Spelling Alliance mentioned in the June and September numbers, and communications approving the suggestion keep coming in from day to day. All friends of the cause who are ready to take part in the formation of such an association, and who are willing to pay a nominal fee, not more than a dollar a year, toward the expense of the propaganda, are requested to send their names to the Board.

## IN MEMORIAM

Dr. William Torrey Harris, for many years United States Commissioner of Education, died in Providence, R. I., November 5, 1909. Eminent as a scholar, a philosopher and an educator, he was one of the chief promoters of the movement to regulate English spelling, and was one of the first members of the Simplified Spelling Board.

Richard Watson Gilder, editor of the *Century Magazine*, died in New York, November 18, 1909. A poet of fine feeling, a man of large public spirit, a leader in the fight for the improvement of the tenements of the poor, he spoke out, in prose and in verse, whenever he saw a wrong. In the same public-spirited way he gave his support to the cause of spelling reform, by personal example, in his poems, and as a member of the Simplified Spelling Board.

When you have read this number thru, show your interest in the cause by sending 10 cents, for a year's subscription, to the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York.

Show it more strongly by sending one dollar and the names and addresses of nine other persons to whom you wish the BULLETIN sent for a year.

File

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. I

MARCH 1910

No. 4

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## FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

The fourth annual meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board will take place April 5 and 6, 1910, at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York. The annual dinner will be given Tuesday evening, April 5. Among those who have accepted invitations to speak are Dr. William H. Maxwell, city superintendent of schools, of New York; Dr. David Felmley, president of the Illinois State Normal University; Colonel Charles E. Sprague, president of the Union Dime Savings Bank, and (if he is able to come) Mr. William Archer, secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain. Other speakers are expected. There will be a public session on Wednesday, April 6.

Applications for tickets to the dinner (price five dollars) should be made to the Board.

## AID FROM THE ENEMY

Any one who is interested in simplified spelling may find in the daily newspapers frequent examples of what he may take to be misprints, but are really correct spellings. That is, they are spellings that are intelligible and reasonable in themselves, and must come in some cases from the conscious working of the human mind.

Some of them are actually 'simplified' spellings. Simplified spellings are now habitually used by many journalists or contributors, because of their general intent, as Signers of the Promise, to use such simplified spellings in their personal correspondence. The habit becomes a second nature, and the simplified forms appear in copy for newspapers. Then the copy-readers, the compositors and the proof-readers either fail to notice the new forms, or are themselves so used to seeing them that they do not, at the moment, recognize the spellings as being simplified. Thus reason gets into print; and being reason, is naturally taken to be a misprint.

An example of this kind is the spelling *gard* which appears in the *New York Times* of January 28, 1910, page 1, column 1. The antiquated spelling *guard* occurs in the same column. The editor ought to guard more carefully against these intrusions of modern spellings. Before he knows it, some rash innovator will be spelling *reguard* also without the inestimable *u*.

In other cases the apparently simplified forms are truly accidental; but the accident produces a form that looks right in itself, and so the error is not detected, and the word goes thru. An example is the use of *egs* in the *Evening Post* of Feb. 8, 1910, p. 14, col. 3.

Simplified spellings also get into the newspapers by sheer virtue of their brevity. Some newspapers, the *New York Evening Post*, for example, are devoted to the archaic spelling *programme*. As *program* is now the preferred spelling in the United States, it frequently comes before the eyes of the editors and proof-readers; and whenever they see it, they conscientiously and laboriously add the archaic *-me* to the word. But not always. The newspapers sometimes have occasion to use the word *programme* in a headline, where the extra *-ME*, in capitals, would take more space than the width of the column allows; so the compositor sets the word up as PROGRAM, and this spelling goes thru, simply because of its convenience.

This policy may in time establish two systems of orthography for such newspapers; a twentieth-century, economic, convenient, brief spelling for use in headlines; and a sixteenth-century, uneconomic, inconvenient, serpentine spelling for use in the main text.

## DOUBLE NUMBER

This number of the BULLETIN contains 16 pages in stead of 8; but our readers are not to regard this generosity as establishing a precedent.

## TROUBLESOME WORDS

J. M. Pickens, Editor of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, has recently published in the *Christian Endeavor World* (November 25, 1909) a list of 154 spellings of the word *bureau*, which he has noted in letters received by the Bureau of Animal Industry from farmers. He also gives a list of 100 spellings of the word *vaccine*, a thing much used and written about by the farmers who are advised by the Bureau.

In the case of the word *bureau* the writer does not point out the source of the difficulty, namely, the adoption in English of a foreign word without adapting the foreign spelling of that word to any of the analogies of English spelling. It is to be said to the credit of the farmers that most of them show by their spelling that they are aware that there is some cantankerous French spelling in the word. Nearly all of them put in the required peck of vowels. They leave the order to the care of their paternal Government. It is not to their discredit that they have not learned in what order the letters occur in a spelling which is not only a foreign spelling, but would be a 'fool spelling' in any language.

Among the many spellings are two or three that do represent something like the real pronunciation. These are *beuro*, *buro*, and *burou*.

These spelling difficulties recall the trouble of a freight agent in a small New England town, who found a burro from Arizona left in his charge by a passing freight train. Unfamiliar with the local name for the animal, and quite accustomed to 'queer spellings' on way-bills, he made the following notes on his daily report to headquarters:

"Missing.....1 bureau.  
Not on way-bill.....1 jackass."

The 100 spellings of the word *vaccine* variously suggest the three pronunciations of the word which the present spelling conceals. One pronunciation is represented, accurately enough by English analogies, by the spellings *vaxin* and *vaccin*. The second pronunciation is crudely indicated by the spellings *vacsene*, *vacksene* and *vaxene*. The third pronunciation is crudely indicated by *vaxcyne*. The same pronunciation is indicated by *vaccine*, *vac sine*, etc., if they don't mean one of the other two pronunciations. You just guess, like the farmers. It is a commentary upon English spelling that not a single one of the 100 forms is strictly correct from a fonetic point of view. The correct fonetic spelling of the usual pronunciation, namely *vacsin*, does not occur in the list.

These cases are only typical. We have seen lists of bad spellings collected by persons in the United States Post Office, from letters received from postmasters or their assistants, in which the elements of the spelling-book are elaborated beyond the dreams of art.

## COMPELD TO COMPLIMENT

The New York newspapers of February 10, 1910, printed a letter from Mr. Andrew Carnegie to Mr. William J. Gaynor, Mayor of New York, upon the proposed abolition of personal taxes. The letter contained some simplified spellings—the *Evening Post* said that it was "full of simplified spelling." The letter, including the date and the signature, contained exactly 100 lines. There were 7 simplified spellings, one of which, *assess*, occurred three times. According to a notion fostered by many newspapers, the appearance of these seven simplified forms in 100 lines of print made the whole letter illegible, requiring all readers to "go to school again," and to "learn the new system" before they could read the letter. But Mr. Gaynor is an exceptional man. He had not the slightest difficulty in recognizing the words and in understanding the letter. Indeed, he referred with admiration to Mr. Carnegie's simplified spelling, and said "I feel 'compeld' to compliment you in that respect."

## ADVISORY COUNCIL—NEW MEMBERS

The following gentlemen have recently been elected members of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, and have accepted membership, recording their approval of "the principle and practice of simplified spelling":

ROBERT G. AITKEN, A.M., Sc.D., assistant astronomer, Lick Observatory, Mt. Hamilton, Cal.

LIBERTY H. BAILEY, M.S., LL.D., director of New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University; Ithaca, N.Y.

MARSTON T. BOGERT, professor of organic chemistry, Columbia University; 422 West 154th st., New York, N.Y.

GEORGE W. CABLE, A.M., D.L., author; 23 Dryads' Green, Northampton, Mass.

WILLIAM A. COLLEDGE, D.D., professor of English, Armour Institute of Technology; 2405 Lincoln st., Evanston, Ill.

WILLIAM MORRIS DAVIS, M.E., Sc.D., Ph.D., professor of geology, Harvard University; 17 Francis ave., Cambridge, Mass.

NATHAN HASKELL DOLE, author and editor; Glen Road, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass.

ISADORE DYER, M.D., professor, dean of the medical department, Tulane University of Louisiana; 2222 Prytania st., New Orleans, La.

CHARLES P. FAGNANI, D.D., associate professor of Old Testament language and literature, Union Theological Seminary; 700 Park ave., New York, N. Y.

THOMAS C. HALL, A.M., D.D., professor of Christian ethics, Union Theological Seminary; 606 West 122d st., New York, N. Y.

GEORGE BRUCE HALSTED, A.M., Ph.D., F.R.A.S., professor of mathematics, State Normal School of Colorado; Greeley, Colo.

ASHLEY K. HARDY, Ph.D., assistant professor of German and instructor in Old English, Dartmouth College; Hanover, N. H.

RICHARD WELLINGTON HUSBAND, A.M., assistant professor of classical philology, Dartmouth College; Hanover, N. H.

HARRY LYMAN KOOPMAN, A.M., Litt.D., librarian and professor of bibliography, Brown University; Providence, R. I.

JOHN WILLIAMS LANGLEY, B.S., M.D., Ph.D., formerly professor of electro-metallurgy, Case School of Applied Science; 2087 Geddes ave., Ann Arbor, Mich.

ELMER H. LOOMIS, Ph.D., professor of physics, Princeton University; 302 Nassau st., Princeton, N. J.

CHARLES MCINTIRE, A.M., M.D., physician; editor of Bulletin of the American Academy of Medicine; 54 North 4th st., Easton, Penn.

WILL S. MONROE, A.B., professor of psychology, Montclair State Normal School; Montclair, N. J.

ARTHUR A. NOYES, S.B., S.M., Ph.D., professor of theoretical chemistry and director of Research Laboratory of physical chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Boston, Mass.

HENRY GALLUP PAINE, A.B., author; editor of the Simplified Spelling Bulletin; 16 Gramercy Park, New York, N. Y.

CHARLES L. PARSONS, B.S., professor of inorganic chemistry, New Hampshire College; Durham, N. H.

WILLIAM L. PEARSON, A.M., Ph.D., professor of theology, Friends University; Wichita, Kans.

FRANK W. TAUSSIG, Ph.D., LL.B., professor of economics, Harvard University; Cambridge, Mass.

DAVID TODD, A.M., Ph.D., professor of astronomy and navigation, Amherst College; Amherst, Mass.

EDWIN H. TUTTLE, teacher of modern languages; 217 Mansfield st., New Haven, Conn.

GEORGE MEASON WHICHER, A.M., Litt.D., professor of Latin and Greek, Normal College of the City of New York; New York, N. Y.

## PHOUNTAINS OF PHILOLOGY

The restaurants and drugstore "fountains" offer their customers what they spell "bouillon." One drugstore literatus offers it as "bouillion." A man askt a waiter for some "bweeyong." The waiter lookt puzzled. Then he lookt enlightend (this sometimes happens). "Oh," he said, "bullion, bullion." And he brought some "bullion." A tip from the waiter.

One thing is clear. If we go on calling beef-tea *bouillon* in type, it will turn out *bullion* in speech. And why not? The two other words now speld *bullion* in English come from the same 'boiling'—namely, French *bouillon*.

## A SHORT WAY IN SPELLING

In the *Educational Review* for February, 1910, there is an article by Professor Otto Jespersen, of the University of Copenhagen, lately exchange professor at Columbia University, entitled "What is the use of phonetics?" In this article Dr. Jespersen, who is himself a trained fonetician, repeats from his own experience the opinion of all experts that the study of the actual fonetic facts of any language is important, that the accurate notation of such facts is also important, and that by means of any fairly fonetic scheme a child can learn both the fonetic and the ordinary spelling sooner than he can learn the ordinary spelling alone.

## INDIVIDUAL ORTHOGRAFY

In the *Chicago Dial*, February 16, 1910, a correspondent in St. Paul quotes a passage from Professor Jespersen's paper in the *Educational Review* for February, with reference to the promotion of simplified spelling. The passage is: "Much would be achieved if scholars of renown, philologists, students of literature, and writers of books in general would indulge in some individual spellings. These need not be necessarily consistent, and the author need not necessarily give any other reason for his special heterodoxy than that they just suited his fancy."

The correspondent asks: "Why should not students as well as professors ask the right—the duty even—of 'individual spelling?' It is a free country and a student has as much right as any one else to use spellings that 'just suit his fancy'."

The point is well taken. Let the students as well as the professors use individual spellings, giving preference to those that "suit their fancy," that is, their individual intellect or their artistic preference. This is a different thing from merely careless or erroneous or fantastic spelling, where there is no conscious exercise of intellect or of artistic choice. Students, and even professors, sometimes use variations of spelling that are not the choice of their minds; but every man who is educated, or is in process of education, not only has "the right," but has "the duty even," of revealing his mind, his intellect, his choice, his sense of correctness and proportion, by presenting his ideas in forms that suit his mind. He should make the work of his hands suit the counsel of his mind; and if he can make that work of his hands which is cald spelling indicate the protests or the aspirations of his soul, let him do it.

## CATALOG

L. H. Elwell, professor of Greek and Sanskrit in Amherst College, tells this little story:

"In the summer I got out a list of our Phi Beta Kappa men; I termed it a 'catalog' on the title page, but the printer was a back number and affixed the antique *-ue*. However I inserted a little slip—copy inclosed—which I printed in my own office, without the interference of any old foggy compositor, and this slip has gone to every member and chapter. The dose was certainly very mild, but I hope it will prove strong enough to inoculate one or two of the recipients against some of our prevailing present enormities. At any rate, the absence of the vermiform appendix to *catalog* attracted some attention, and brought to me some politely opprobrious remarks from several hardend Fibetas! And I was cheered by that sign!

The spelling catalog is a type of reason at work in spelling. It was included in the Twelve Words adopted by the National Education Association in 1898, and in the Three Hundred Words recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board in 1906. It is now firmly established in use. Any one who will examine the advertisements in the newspapers and magazines will find the word there spelled *catalog* oftener than in the alien French way, *catalogue*, which for so long a time drove out the normal English form. *Catalog* was used by the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College in Oxford in 1587, by Chapman in 1598, and by Minsheu in 1599. It was a regular simplification of the older English spelling *cataloge*.

Some publishers now use the normal spelling *catalog* in their catalogs and circulars; for example, Henry Holt and Company, A. S. Barnes and Company, publishers of school books, and Rand, McNally and Company, publishers of maps, atlases, guides, etc.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

The proprietors of the Graphophone have put that soothing instrument within a tight box (allowing, however, the sound to escape), and, with a graceful allusion to the Pianola, they call the new device a "Grafonola," and advertise it so. When they wish to sell a Graphophone in Italy or Spain, they must spell it with two *f*'s. Why apply this "favord-nation clause" to the encouragement of foreners? Why not patronize the home industry of the new American spelling in the case of the Graphophone, as they have done in that of the Grafonola?

"Phone-Eze" is the orthographic form in which the manufacturers present to the users of

telephones a swinging support for that convenient and vexatious instrument. "Fone-Eze" or "Foneze" would be better. The "phone" is bound to become the "fone."

"Glasspact" is the name by which a manufacturer of food products describes the method in which he "puts them up." If his edibles are as excellent as his spelling, he should find many consumers ready to "put them down."

## LOCAL AGENTS

Persons in any part of the country who are distinctly interested in the movement for the simplification of English spelling and who desire to do something practical to promote it in their respective communities are invited to become Local Agents. Local Agents receive the publications of the Board for distribution; are kept informed; and, being authorized to represent the Board, may pursue their work in an impersonal way. The post is one which is especially suited to young men in professional life; in technical business, like engineering; in scientific work, as in the scientific bureaus of the Government; or in any business that brings one into contact with many educated persons. On the other hand, some local agents are men of mature years and great distinction, who find it an agreeable by-play in their busy lives to promote, by a good turn now and then, a cause which they thoroughly understand and wish to promote.

## ON TOP

Professor Franklin T. Jones, of the University School, Cleveland, Ohio, Secretary of the Northeastern Ohio Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, has been delivering addresses and distributing the literature of the Simplified Spelling Board at meetings of teachers in Ohio. He writes (February 12, 1910) of a recent meeting of his Association, with reference to the circulars sent to him for distribution:

"Your letter of the 8th and the circulars were duly received. I took great pleasure in distributing them because there seemed such a real desire on the part of the teachers present for information. I put these circulars into the rooms where sessions were being held by the History, English, Physics, Chemistry, and Rural Teachers. The last room was filled to the doors, and when I laid the pile of pamphlets and circulars on the Webster's dictionary, and said that here was some excellent information on peculiarities in the English language, as well as some very interesting circulars, there was a rush for

them which put the supply at a premium. By the way, I always try to leave too few pamphlets to go around. There is greater eagerness to be sure to get one."

Thus the spelling books of the Simplified Spelling Board are already on top of Webster's dictionary, to which they form an up-to-date supplement.

### SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain is continuing the work it has so well begun. The officers are:

**PRESIDENT:** The Rev. Professor Skeat, Litt.D., LL.D., D.C.L., Ph.D.

**VICE-PRESIDENTS:** Henry Bradley, M.A., Ph.D.; Professor James W. Bright, M.A., Ph.D.; Andrew Carnegie, LL.D.; Frederick J. Furnivall, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt.; Thomas R. Lounsbury, LL.D., L.H.D. (President of the Simplified Spelling Board, U. S. A.); Thomas J. Macnamara, M.P., LL.D., M.A.; Sir James A. H. Murray, M.A., LL.D., D.C.L., D.Litt., Ph.D.; Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., LL.D., D.Sc., M.D., &c.; Right Hon. James Bryce (British Ambassador to the United States).

**COMMITTEE:** William Archer, M.A.; Frederick J. Furnivall, D.Litt., &c.; Henry Frank Heath, B.A., Ph.D.; H. Stanley Jevons, M.A., B.Sc.; Professor Gilbert Murray, LL.D., &c.; Professor Arthur S. Napier, D.Litt., &c.; Alfred W. Pollard, M.A.; J. S. Westlake, M.A.; Professor H. C. K. Wyld, B.Litt.

**SECRETARY:** William Archer, M.A.

**HONORARY TREASURER:** Dr. Furnivall.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Walter W. Skeat, M.A.

**OFFICES:** 44, Great Russell Street, London.

The Simplified Spelling Society published in December, 1909, as its Pamphlet No. 7, "Professor Lounsbury on 'English Spelling and Spelling Reform'". This is a review of the book by Professor Walter Rippmann, one of the chief workers of the Society. The pamphlet, like its predecessors, contains such simplifications as *considerd*, *equipt*, *hav*, *wel*, *shoud*, and many others. The reviewer says "that the spelling reformer will find in this book a great deal that he can utilise in his efforts to carry on the struggle for a more general appreciation of the problem and for a more general desire to solve it," and he quotes Professor Lounsbury's concluding words as giving the spelling reformers "renewd courage for the fray."

### SPELLING BEES

We are glad to see that the spelling bee is being revived. The latest report comes from York, Pennsylvania: "In order that the pupils of the various public schools may become more efficient in orthography, County Superintendent C. W. Stine has planned to conduct spelling bees throughout the country during the next scholastic year. The County Superintendent has prepared a book of 5000 practical words which he will use in these spelling contests, and prizes will be awarded to the successful spellers."

These spelling bees should be encouraged by the advocates of simplified spelling. They are always interesting and amusing. The spelling bee conducted in connection with the National Education Association at Cleveland in June, 1908, attracted attention throughout the country; but no one connected with the affair mentioned, at least in public, even the idea of simplified spelling. Everything was conducted in the good old medieval way.

In some towns spelling matches have been contrived between competing 'teams' from Ladies' Aid Societies and other church organizations.

Professor Burt G. Wilder, of Cornell University, sends us information of a Simplified Spelling bee in the First Baptist Society at Ithaca; and we hear of another in Pennsylvania. We hope that this does not sound the doom of the good old antiquarian contests.

### WORSTED BY A NURSING

"Three evenings ago I gave a spelling-bee," writes a correspondent from Circleville, Ohio, "and attempting to spell analogously, I went to my seat on *nursling*, having used an *e* after the *s*; and I was surprised to find that 'The International' did not bear me out."

*Nursling* is the spelling in 'Webster's International,' as it is in Johnson (1755), Entick, Ash, Perry, Fenning, Sheridan, Walker, Webster (1828), Richardson, Knowles, Worcester (1846), and later dictionaries. *Nursling* was used by Milton, Dryden, Tickell, Cowper, Scott, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, Holmes, and a host of writers. Even the conservatives of the Walker-Worcester school could not reject such authority. Yet the truly 'regular' form is *nurseling*; and *nursling*, like *nurst* (which was used by Spenser, Shakespeare, Jonson, Drayton, Heywood, Sylvester, Wotton, Milton, Cowley, Swift, Burns, Scott, Hood, Præd, Lamb), is merely an old simplified spelling.

## THE NEW 'WEBSTER'

A new edition of 'Webster,' cald "Webster's New International Dictionary," dated 1910, was publisht in December, 1909. The work has been completely reset, as all "new editions" of dictionaries ought to be.

It is interesting to note the attitude of the work toward the simplifications of spelling which are proposed or are in use. Noah Webster gaind fame and obloquy as a determind simplifier of English spelling. He died in 1843. The subsequent editors of his work (1847, 1849, 1855, 1859, 1864, 1890, 1900, 1910) have completely transformd it. They have set aside some of the better changes of spelling which he ventured to adopt. The edition of 1864 included the useful tho very imperfect "List of common words spelled in two or more ways," on which was based the more correct tho smaller list with the same title publisht in 1906 by the Simplified Spelling Board. The edition of 1900 (which was the edition of 1890, with a supplement) included the list of amended spellings recommended by the philological societies, and previously publisht in the Century Dictionary and the Standard Dictionary.

The edition of 1910 omits the formal list of variant spellings, but includes them in other ways, either as alternativs at the hed of the articles, or in fine print, in a compartment on the lower part of the page, where all kinds of words and forms regarded by the editors as relatively unimportant are put, as it were, out of sight.

The editors have this to say of the Simplified Spelling Board in the preface (pp. vii, viii):

The principle of the New International, as of its predecessors, has been that it is the function of the dictionary, in spelling as in other particulars, to record usage rather than to create it. At present a difficulty exists for lexicographers in the fact that advocacy of proposed changes is very active. . . . This same principle, of recording usage as it exists, has governed the action with reference to the spellings recommended in the "Spelling Reform" movement. The forms that have been proposed by the "Simplified Spelling Board" have not been entered as such, since not only is it impossible to tell, as yet, what the result of this movement will be, but also the changes proposed by this Board are being added to so rapidly as not to admit of their being here recorded. Their work, however, has in general been based upon the recommendations of the Philological Society of England and of the American Philological Association, and the list of spellings proposed by these bodies some years ago (numbering upward of 3,000 words, and given in a separate table in the old International Dictionary) is incorporated in the vocabulary of the New

International. Some of these forms, as *program*, *catechize*, *criticize*, have been generally adopted, and now take the place of precedence. Others, as past participles in *t*, may be the revival of obsolete, archaic, or poetic forms, and the facts in the case are, therefore, indicated by labeling them "Obsolete or Ref. Sp.," "Archaic or Ref. Sp.," or the like. Still other forms are marked merely "Ref. Sp." (or "R. Sp.") to indicate that they are merely the "reformed spellings" proposed for use by the philological societies.

Yet, as we have said, this work is dated 1910. The proprietors of the "New International Dictionary" are evidently reluctant to give up their just claim to the affectionate title of "the Old-Fashioned Webster," to which we have before referd (BULLETIN No. 3, p. 4). But they recognize that changes in spelling are inevitable, and accept not only the change to *program*, *catechize* and *criticize*, but also a change in "various miscellaneous words, as *asbestos*, *bi-retta*, *bolection*, *cotillion*, *gruesome*, etc., . . . because usage now seems to favor the form now given the preference" (pref. p. viii). Every one will recognize these great strides forward. We have only to bring about "usage," and publishers will then give it their "preference."

## THE SPELLING OF THE POETS

Henry Barrett Hinckley in his "Poems" (Northampton, Mass., 1909, pp. 39), uses simplified spellings both of the historic and of the modern kind—*deviz'd*, *dropt*, *finisht*, *laught*, *promist*, *seal'd*, *skipt*, *stori'd*, *stript*, *window'd*, etc. It is gratifying to notis the tendency among our younger poets to adopt simplified spellings. It is not perhaps so much the spirit of progress as a sense of poetic fitness, and the recalling of a poetic atmosfere, that leads them to use spellings of the kind mentiond.

Surely it is as reasonable, for the purpose of recalling the historic atmosfere, to use historic spellings that happen now to be little used, as to insist upon the daily and perpetual use of other historic spellings that have no poetic value, and serv only to interfere with the convenience of grown persons and to hinder the progress of the young learner.

Poets who like to be able to cite precedents for their own practis are advized to send for "The Spelling of the Poets" (Circular No. 21) by Professor Brander Matthews. It will be furnisht free on application to the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

The "Fifty-Fourth Annual Report of the Board of Education, New Brunswick, N. J., for the year ending June 30, 1909," contains many modernized spellings, such as *accomplisht*, *address*, *askt*, *blankt*, *coopt*, *markt*, *fixt*, *furnisht*, *imprest*, *reacht*, *thoroly*, etc.

The *Educational Review* for February, 1910, contains (pp. 121-143) a biographic sketch and appreciation of "William Torrey Harris: educator, philosopher and scholar," by Superintendent James M. Greenwood of Kansas City, Missouri. This is an interesting appreciation, with reminiscence and anecdote, of a great man. It mentions most of the various activities of Dr. Harris in the ways of education and science, but omits, doubtless by inadvertence, any mention of his long connection with the movement for the reform of English spelling and of his membership in the Simplified Spelling Board. The author says of Dr. Harris (page 131), "No hazy or shadowy ideas ever satisfied him." The article exemplifies the practice of simplified spelling in such forms as *express*, *husht*, *imprest*, *past*, *possest*, *slipt*, *thoro*, *thru*, *thruout*.

Professor F. M. Goodman, dean of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois, recently sent to the Board, in one batch, 105 cards of agreement to use simplified spelling, signed by students in the School of Pharmacy.

The simplified spelling is used, and in some cases has been formally adopted by school boards, in many towns, no trouble of any kind has been reported. The fact is that teachers are all the time favoring the simpler spellings when two or more ways are in present use. What else could they do? What else should they do? The dictionaries give such lists and 'allow' every one to choose. The Simplified Spelling Board is now greatly increasing the number of cases in which two or more ways of spelling are in present use. Teachers and others must more and more take account of this fact. And they will more and more decide in favor of the way that is most simple and reasonable.

Dr. David Felmley, President of the Illinois State Normal University, aided by the members of his teaching staff, has been engaged in preparing a special list of words that ought to be simplified for primary schools, to submit to the Simplified Spelling Board.

Dr. Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Teachers College, has recently lectured on

simplified spelling at the following places in Iowa: Cedar Falls, State Teachers College; New Hampton, county teachers' meeting; Calmar, district teachers' meeting; Des Moines, Principals' Club; Iowa City, State University; Oskaloosa, Mahaska county teachers' meeting. He has also brought simplified spelling to the attention of the Iowa Bankers' Association.

The *Normal College Gazette*, published at the Provincial Normal College, Truro, Nova Scotia, contains many advanced simplified spellings. The same is true of the *Annual Calendar*, of the same institution, for 1909-10.

In the *Educational Review* for February, 1910, on pages 212-213, is given, under the head "Simpler Spellings and the Normal Schools," the main part of a letter to the presidents and faculties of the Normal Schools throughout the United States sent by the identical Committees of the Simplified Spelling Board and the National Education Association with a view to promoting the use of simplified spelling in normal schools. The members of the Committees are Dr. Homer H. Seerley, president of the Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Dr. David Felmley, president of the Illinois State Normal University, Normal, Illinois; and Charles McKenny, president of the Wisconsin Normal School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Many professors in normal schools and colleges take a notion to address their students, or the teachers in their town, on the subject of simplified spelling. They send to the Board for extra copies of its publications and for blank cards to sign. They distribute the publications and the cards, and often find that more than half of their audience is willing to sign the card in token of approval.

The Library of the University of Wisconsin includes simplified spelling among the topics for debate for which it furnishes short bibliographies. It includes in its bibliography the publications of the Simplified Spelling Board.

The "Report of the Forty-third Annual Meeting of the Tennessee State Teachers' Association, held at Monteagle, Tennessee, July 13-15," contains an article by Professor J. I. D. Hinds, on "The Progress of Simplified Spelling." Thanks to Professor Hinds, J. J. W. Starr, and others, the cause of simplified spelling is receiving a good deal of attention in Tennessee.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## THE "SYSTEM" OF THE BOARD

Many correspondents, on seeing for the first time the publications of the Simplified Spelling Board, or reading about it in the newspapers, write to the Board to ask what "system" of spelling it follows. Our answer is that it does not follow any "system." It uses in the main, because it must, the good old orthodox, or the bad old antiquated, spelling (whatever you please to call it), that everybody uses. But it uses also some amended spellings, which it has adopted, upon full consideration, after ascertaining to its satisfaction that these amendments will probably be approved by the great body of its supporters.

From time to time it will add to this careful list of amended spellings other amended spellings; as engineers and workmen gradually produce stretches of level ground on a rocky road that they can not at once make level all the way.

Whatever faults there may be in the spelling of our publications, look first to see whether the faults are in the improved spellings, or in the common spellings that we have not yet been able, with general support, to improve; and do not reproach us with the faults of spellings that we condemn, and expect, with sufficient support, to amend.

## CONFUSION

Objection has been made to the introduction of simplified spelling into schools on the ground that it may lead to 'confusion.' But the confusion is *there now*. It is in the conventional spelling. To introduce some simplified forms into the conventional spelling which the schools try to teach, is to introduce some clearness, some order into the midst of confusion. Is it confusion to set the table, even tho the rest of the room is in disorder? Is it confusion to sweep one room, even tho the other rooms are left unswept? Is it confusion to set some bricks into line, tho the other

bricks remain in a disorderd pile, until you can procede to finish the bilding? Is it confusion to give a child a clear statement of the multiplication table, altho algebra and geometry are still unintelligible to him? There is, in fact, a good deal of confusion in spelling; but not every one recognizes the exact locality of the confusion.

## THE VANGARD

It has been proposed that those adventurous friends of simplification who are redy to go ahead of the main body of simplifiers, and to blaze the trail for it by the experimental or habitual use of good new spellings in advance of the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board (but keeping always in the same direction) should unite in a sort of pioneering party, to be cald the "Vangard."

The Vangard would be organized as a company of scouts or troop of light cavalry to ride forward, to make reconnoissances and to skirmish, in an independent fashion. They would particularly attack the most irregular spellings, like those containing *gh*, *ght*, and *ph*.

Who would like to join the Vangard?

If even fifty volunteers send in their names and specify exactly the words and forms they would attack and the forms they would use, the skirmishing would begin. Indeed, it has begun; but the skirmishers are scatterd thru the woods, and do not support one another.

## AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

Several writers have informd us of their intention to use the improved forms in books now in preparation. But others, who would like to do so, still hesitate. Their bogy is the publisher. An author fears that his publisher will be inaccessible to reason. Why authors should think so of publishers is a mystery. Let us hope that there is no ground for it.

Sometimes an author is so lost to shame that he will use simplified spellings in his book without saying anything about it. And the publisher, who knows that the use of any simplified spelling would "ruin the sale of the book," goes on selling it just the same. Moreover, the readers often fail to observ the ruinous spelling.

The same nefarious practis seems to exist in some college catalogs and library publications. The editors quietly use simplified spellings, and the supervisory powers that be wink at the practis. But is it right thus to reform without

proclamation? How will the defenders of the common orthograpy know that their ideas are being upset, unless we tell them?

### THE PASSING HOUR

The *Dial*, of Chicago, is an interesting paper, and sympathizes in many respects with modern progress; but on the subject of English spelling it maintains an archaic attitude suited to its name. Some dials have the pleasant motto: "Horas non numero nisi serenas." The motto of the Chicago *Dial*, in respect to spelling, is "Horas non numero nisi praeteritas." It yearns toward the shadows, and regrets the hours that are gone. But it is the offis of a dial to face the sun, and to mark the passing hours. In respect to spelling, that is, indeed, what the *Dial* is doing; because the English spelling which it now cherishes belongs to the passing hour, and will pass with it. In the brighter hours to come the *Dial* will be recording modern thought in modern spelling.

### "HOBGOBLIN OF WEAK MINDS"

The advocates of simplified spelling have been criticized because they do not universally use the forms that they approve. They are told, in substance, that they are bound to use simplified spelling on all occasions and are debarred from any use of the common spelling of the multitude. They are held up to scorn as "inconsistent."

Are reformers of orthograpy, alone of all mankind, required to be consistent? May we remind these critics that "consistency is the hobgoblin of weak minds"? We wish to reform spelling because we have to use it. We wish to make it more fit for its purpose. While we are in transit from chaos to order, we shall use any spelling we please, whether for the information of the multitude or for the edification of the elect. When we wish to gain the attention of the people or of any individual, we shall use the spelling that will serv that purpose. If a part of the public shuts up its mind at the first sight of simplified spelling, we recognize and respect the ancient habits of the clam, and approach it in the garb of the ancient orthograpy. Thinking creatures we approach in the bright habiliments of reason.

Simplified spelling is always good practis, and tends to edification and progress; but any one may use *any* spelling that will effect his purpose—old spelling or new, English spelling or French, script or print, prose or verse. Let him look to the end. A wise man considers his

public, his publisher, and the other obstacles, and acts accordingly.

Persons who wish to use simplified spellings in private correspondence need not try to be uniform. They need not attempt to carry a supposed rule to the bitter end. Leave that to the Board and the Advisory Council, and to the teachers and editors and authors and publishers who will in due time propose, print, and use complete and decisiv lists. It is better, indeed, for individual writers, who can not give much time to the subject, to adopt a good number of simplifications, and to use them persistently. But not in every place. Consistency is a jewel; but you need not flaunt it on all occasions. Do in spelling as in other affairs of life; act with judgment, discrimination, restraint and reserv, according to circumstances.

### YOU MITE IF YOU WUD

Those reformers who make much of economy of time and space in spelling, might well exert themselves to promote the use of shorter forms of the auxiliary words that are long and cumbrous in spelling. Such are, especially, *might*, *could*, *should*, *would*, to say nothing of *ought* (and, with this, *bought*, *brought*, *thought*). These words recur perpetually. Short forms of them would save much time and space. It would be worth more to simplify these than to simplify *thorough*, or *cough*, or *rhyme*, or *philosophy*. But every form that can be proposed is 'open to objection.' Of course it is. If it were not, it would have been adopted alrely. But why not *consider* some form, in spite of the objections? Why not *use* some forms? To take an example:

Some day all men will agree upon a form to replace *would*. It will probably be one of these forms: *woud*, *wood*, *wud*. At present, nearly every man rejects all three forms, offhand, for reasons that seem to him conclusiv. But why not *use* one of the forms, in print, for a considerable time, to find out whether the reasons *are* conclusiv? Many use *w'd* or *wd*, in script, without objection.

The skirmishers, the vangard of reform, might well use some simplified forms for these hard cases. Anything is better than the perpetual retention of these dry bones. Do something auxiliary to these poor old auxiliary words. You *may* do something; you *can* do something; you *must* do something. Try *woud*; try *wood*; or, better, try *wud*. You can if you will. You 'mite' if you 'wud.'

## YOU CAN HELP

There is *some* line of effort in which you can promote the simplification of English spelling, beyond the adoption of some simplified forms in your own personal use. Perhaps it may be to use the spelling leaflets. Ask the Board for them. You will get them free, and may use them freely. Or you can print leaflets of your own. A mere two-by-three-inch slip with 'Simplified Spelling' or 'S. S.' or any other strange device, will mark your Excelsior climb toward the peaks of clearness and simplicity.

Or you can write letters to the editor of your local paper. He will print some of them. He can not reject all. Mentally, he can not reject any; because a repetition of correct information and good reasons will influence even an editor. He may, thru indolence, or timidity, or fear of business loss, refuse to follow his inward convictions; but if he *has* inward convictions, his guns are spiked. He can do no harm to the idea, except by suppressing discussion; and he can not suppress all discussion.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

The Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council include more than two hundred and fifty leading scholars, educators, writers, clergymen, lawyers, engineers, men of business, in nearly all states of the Union. Many are superintendents of education and principals of high schools and normal schools. They are sending out to the teachers of the United States thousands of pamphlets explaining the facts of English spelling, pointing out its defects, and proposing the remedy. They are also writing about the matter, lecturing about it, exemplifying the reform in their personal and official letters, and defending the idea in conversation. Many of them are using the simplifications in the books or periodicals controld by them. Every day the amount of information diffused is increast, and the number of persons informd becomes larger.

On the other hand, there is no leading educator, no eminent writer or public man, no prominent man of business, no body of scholars, no organization, engaged in defending the conventional spelling, or in controverting the arguments and opposing the efforts of the reformers. The teachers of the United States receive no information, no arguments, no science, no illuminating literature, from the enemies of the reform.

To each teacher the situation is this: On one side, the conventional spelling, and the habits and

prejudises associated with it, without recognized defenders; on the other side, an improved spelling, progressing toward accuracy, with scholarship, with science, with literary interest, with a glow of zeal and a certainty of gratifying change, amid the approval and persuasion of nearly all the leading scholars of the time.

What will happen? Which will win?

## 'SIMPLIFIED' AND 'FONETIC'

'Simplified spelling' is spelling made simple, or more nearly simple than the customary spelling. 'Reformd spelling' is spelling changed for the better. 'Amended spelling' is spelling freed from one or more existing faults. 'Fonetic spelling' is spelling in which each letter has one definit and recognized sound, used uniformly. There can be no fonetic spelling without a fonetic alfabet. There may be simplified, reformd, amended, improved spelling, with a partly fonetic alfabet. The present English alfabet is a partly fonetic alfabet, and it can therefore be used in simplified spelling. It has no one definit recognized sign for the vowel in *ale*, or for that in *eel*, or in *hole*, or in *rule*, or in any other word, for that matter; but it has one definit recognized sign for the final consonant sound in *debt*, *doubt*, *indict*, and one for that in *rough*, *tough*, *cough*, *trough*, *autograph*, and it does not require, by its own rules, any consonant sign at the end of *though*, *through*, *plough*, *bough*, etc., or any consonant after the *s* before the vowel in *scent*, *scissors*, *scythe*, etc. Therefore, these words and their like can be simplified, either by substitution, or by omission.

Omission is a favorit way, and a sensible way. Omit what you do not need. Omit whatever hinders you or misleads you. Omission is a great matter. But it is not all. It always produces shorter spelling, but shorter spelling is not always a good thing in itself. A telegram may be too short to be clear. A short cut may mean a long stop. The long way round may be the quickest way home. In spelling, certainty and truth are worth more than speed.

Simplification of spelling is thus not merely omission. Substitution is an other means of improvement. "Ring out the old, ring in the new." Put out what is wrong, put in what is right. And do it by reason, by rule, by law. Omit *b* in *debt*, *doubt*, because *bt* is not the right sign for *t*, and because *det*, *dout*, are right according to existing rules. Substitute *ff* for *gh* in *rough*, *tough*, *cough*, *trough*, etc., because *ff*

is required by existing analogies (*buff, cuff, huff, muff, puff, stuff, doff, off*); and *then*, if you please, simplify *ff* by the omission of one *f*. This last is a good step, but it is a new one, and requires intellectual courage.

### "A SCHOOL OF SPELLING"

The Simplified Spelling Board receives inquiries from all parts of the world, address to it under many titles. One recent inquirer address his letter to "The School of Simplified Spelling, New York." The New York Post Office sent it straight to the Simplified Spelling Board. It is not a bad title. The purpose of the Board is to spread information about one of the elementary subjects of school study. The existing schools fail to provide pupils either with good instruction in spelling, or with a good spelling to instruct them in. Bound by traditions and regulations and statutes, even those teachers who know better are obliged to teach, in a manner they despise, a spelling they abhor. Until this condition can be changed, it is desirable that there shall be an outside school of spelling, which shall be free to teach the facts about English spelling, present and past, and to propose improvements.

That is the purpose and the intent of the Simplified Spelling Board. It is a school of spelling, and especially a "school of simplified spelling," and it will give information about spelling to pupils of any age who will ask. There are no examinations. Every pupil passes, and every one is rewarded, in gaining correct information about an elementary subject which even grown-up persons ought to understand.

### KEEP AT IT

The school directors or boards of education in several cities have had before them the question of allowing simplified spelling, or the teaching of it, in the schools under their charge. In some cases they have authorized the simplified spelling, or have left the matter to the discretion of the superintendent. In some cases, as in New York City, the superintendent and the division superintendents have recommended the idea to the board of education, while the board has postponed or rejected the recommendation.

It is not to be expected that the directors will often approve the idea at its first presentation. The idea should be brought to them often, in order that the seed may grow and the

fruit ripen. Every other matter of proposed change, even the slightest, has to be brought up often before it is accepted. Let it be so with simplified spelling. Make it a normal, regular, trite proposal, like manual training, medical inspection, school lunches, free books, higher salaries, nature study, gymnastics, vertical handwriting, and the like. Part of the prejudice against simplified spelling consists of a subconscious resistance to the idea because it has not been mentioned often enough. Mention it often, and it will begin to seem normal and right. Remember the immortal principle, "What I tell you three times is true."

### THE FIVE-INCH SHELF

In our second number (September, 1909) we expressed a desire (p. 7) to receive "articles adverse to simplified spelling, that is, articles of some apparent weight and substance in which the reform is opposed, but in which the subject is discussed with some knowledge, and in the style and manner customary among scholars." We added: "A five-inch shelf is waiting for such articles."

Not one such article has been sent to us. The five-inch shelf stands empty. We could of course place there some of the numerous adverse articles that have appeared in the newspapers; but the shelf would still be empty.

### SPECIALIZE

Various persons interested in particular lines of work in the great field of educational endeavor might find an interesting outlet for their energies in promoting some particular part of the general movement for the simplification of English spelling.

There are men of great energy who do not effect anything in particular because they do not take up anything in particular. Let some one take up, say, the idea of framing a really elementary spelling-book, or of collecting the reasons for simplified spelling, or of collecting and collating the various "fonetic" alphabets that have been printed, or of encouraging the movement to frame under scholarly guidance a really practical fonetic alphabet, or of reaching especially the proof-readers, or the publishers of dictionaries (a neglected lot of men who would appreciate missionary attentions), or the eminent writers of the week. There are many vistas opening for any one who wishes to go forward.

## NORTH AMERICAN LANGUAGE

"When the odium theologicum had spent its fury, and the last dissentient had been burnt at the stake with appropriate solemnities, the odium litterarium had remained to continue the sacred tradition. But this has now received what we fear may be a fatal blow from the serenity and benignity—if these can deal a blow; it does not seem as though they could—of Professor Lounsbury's charming essays on 'English Spelling and Spelling Reform.' The whole book containing them is interpenetrated with a sweetness and light which must be temperamental, which must be an effect of what the Swedenborgians call *natural good*, and which could not have been acquired by the most eager and earnest spiritual striving for righteousness. To any one so thoroughly persuaded of the common sense and common honesty of the simplified spelling, the author's smiling reasons, his pleasing ironies, in its favor are absolutely unanswerable, and we should think the wickedest opponent of it would be convinced, and would set about enrolling himself among the blest, with eyes fixt upon the fonetic goal, and feet pressing thru the quicksands of superstition to the stedfast shores of the promist land. The sentimentality, the arrogance, the ignorance which have joined to fasten the chains of an insane orthography upon us, and to incarcerate our hapless English parlance in a bedlam where the lunatics are in power and the doctors and keepers are in strait-jackets, are all disposed of with a laughing ease that the lunatics themselves ought to enjoy. Never before was so much learning joined to so much loving-kindness in the treatment of the ridiculous pretenders to sanity in these conditions. . . .

"The whole book is so delightful; it so abounds in the friendliest humor, the most courteous instruction; its erudition is so well mannered, its wisdom is so forbearing yet so persuasive, that we wish it could be in the hands of every man, woman and child in the country. It is, perhaps, too mad to hope that the week or month will ever come when it shall be quoted among the best-selling books by the 'literary' and 'critical' periodicals; but if that week or month ever came, it would be of bright omen for a language now languishing under the vilest wrongs ever inflicted upon an innocent speech. We seek in vain among the customs of savage or barbarous people for a parallel of the grotesque misuse of English orthography. Nose-

rings, foot-binding, tight lacing, razor-pointed shoes, tattooing, all these are emblematic of an advance in civilization far beyond that marked by our long-established, often disestablished, never re-established, spelling."—NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW, March, 1910, p. 431.

## NOTATION OF DIPHTHONGS

Correspondents who favor spelling reform often ask what they shall do with the diphthongs. They are perplexed by the confused manner in which, in the conventional notation furnished by the dictionaries and spelling-books, as well as in various schemes proposed as improvements, the diphthongs are denoted.

The Simplified Spelling Board has made no official pronouncements upon questions of this nature; but in this particular case none is required. The question is so simple that it answers itself. The notation of sounds is a jungle, and in regard to the diphthongs the law of the jungle is this:

Diphthongs are to be represented by the letters which indicate their component sounds.

Any other notation is not only fundamentally wrong, but is practically mischievous. There is nothing mysterious about the matter. A diphthong is simply a more or less close sequence of two vowel sounds, one of which is stressed more than the other. To an expert there is no difficulty in analyzing them; and there is no difficulty in writing them down, if one knows the signs for the component sounds.

In the most familiar case, the diphthong heard in the usual pronunciation of the words *pine*, *isle*, *aisle*, *kaiser*, the first element is one of the phases of the vowel *a* (as in *arm* and *art*) and the second is one of the phases of the vowel *i* (as in *piano* and *medium*). The notation therefore is *a + i*, that is, *ai*. Whatsoever is more than this is of the evil one. Whosoever calls this diphthong "long *i*," the truth is not in him.

In all words having this usual or normal diphthong *ai* (*a + i*), many persons use (tho few know it) a different diphthong *ui*, that is, *ū + i*, with *ū* as a phase of *u* in *but*. Some use a third diphthong *æi*, that is, *æ + i*, with *æ* as *a* in *at*. And there are variations of the unstressed vowel. Similar variations exist of the diphthong in *out*.

These may seem hard sayings, but they are hard facts. If there is any fault in these pronunciations, it can not be corrected by blinking the facts and refusing to put them into print. All fonetic facts are harmless in themselves. Hate

them, if you will, but don't hate them until you see them truly set forth in print; or you may waste your hatred on the wrong thing. Conserv your hatreds, like the rest of your natural resources.

C. P. G. S.

## DELITE

DELITE was the former spelling of the word now commonly speld *delight*. The word in its fonetic history is parallel with *spite*, *respite*, and the like. In the sixteenth century, by a blind confusion with *light*, the word came to be speld sometimes *delight*. In the earlier versions of the Bible it was regularly *delite*. It so appears in most of the editions of the Genevan Bible (1557 and later). In the 'Authorized Version' of 1611 the printers changed the spelling from *delite* to *delight* in every case but one. Happily, they spared one passage, which is thus speld in the original print of 1611: "Scatter thou the people that delite in warre." (Psalm 68:30.)

*Delite*, with the derivates *delited*, *deliteful*, and *deliting*, occurs abundantly in the sixteenth century. We should be "*de-lited*" to correct in this case a spelling that is not only insufficient in itself, but is positively wrong, and suggests a wrong history.

## A RAILING ACCUSATION

The editor of a well-known periodical which uses some simplified spellings receives now and then a plaintiv letter from some reader who does not like to be aroused from his orthografic slumbers. A writer from the interior of New York thus expresses his emotions on being awakend:

"Why *will* you mar the little smoothness that is possible to our much-abused English by the determined use of that metallic "t" in our pasts and past participles? There is no use in citing examples, but actually when I come across such expressions as "He leant quietly against the rail," I get a violent rush of blood to the head, to say nothing of a positive cramp in my abdomen, at the suggestion of hardness and suddenness with which I am brought up against that rail when I am supposed to be leaning quietly against it. If this usage is to become general, and you are a potent factor in moulding that usage, I hope I may mercifully die before that time."

It will be seen that the gentleman who brings this railing accusation has an incipient sense of humor. Indeed, his pathetic complaint may

really be diagnosed as a premonitory symptom of conversion. A few years hence he will be amused to think that the sight of a few spellings which he had not yet learnd, produced "a violent rush of blood," in sted of a mild rush of information, to his hed.

He says "there is no use in citing examples." The one he does cite, *leant*, is not useful in enforcing his point. This form is given, beside *learned*, in all the dictionaries, and has had the sanction of general usage for several centuries. The earlier spelling was *lent*. The spelling *leant* is an unthinking imitation of the infinitiv *lean*, which has a different sound.

## LOOK AT IT

Not every changed spelling is simplified, or good. Put it down in black and white, and look at it. Look at it twice, thrice, often. Simplified forms, correct forms, truly regular forms, will approve themselves when seriously lookt at. It is indeed a good practis to look at printed words, even the most familiar. Look at them and think about them. Take the words *let*, *set*, *bit*, *pin*, *nest*, *best*, *cord*, *cost*, etc. How fit, how neat, how correct they look, when you have lookt at them long! Then look at *debt*, *doubt*, *guard*, *spread*, *pamphlet*, *rhyme*, *would*, *should*, *island*, *foreign*, *though*, *through*, *rough*, *tough*, *blight*, *thought*, *wrought*, and the like. Look long. How queer they seem! How awkward! How untrue! Must we endure these things for ever? Can we not do better?

## POOR LAMB!

A little boy in the second grade came home from school the other day, saying he had been markt down in spelling for not writing anything on his paper.

"How did that happen?" askt his grandmother.

"Why," said Alan, "the teacher told us to think of something on the dinner-table and then spell it. I couldn't think of anything but 'roast lamb,' and I didn't know how to spell 'roast.' It's easy enough to spell 'lamb'—l-a-m, lam."—O. C. B. Feb. 11, 1910.

## THE STANDARD

No future is there for any genuin orthografic reform which does not hold before itself the idea that the spelling should represent pronunciation; that the sign should always indicate one sound and but one sound.—THOMAS R. LOUNSBURY, President of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## SPELLING OF ORIENTALISTS

The first paper printed in simplified spelling in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* was a monograph on "The Malayan Words in English," by Dr. Charles P. G. Scott (*J. A. O. S.*, vol. 17, 1896; vol. 18, 1897). There is no long list of papers in simplified spelling to be found in the Transactions of that Society, but Professor W. D. Whitney long ago wrote papers in favor of a reform in the notation of sounds and the spelling of English; and among the present members of the Oriental Society who are on record as supporters of simplified spelling are Professor Charles R. Lanman and Professor John Williams White of Harvard, Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson and Dr. H. W. Magoun of Cambridge, Professor Thomas B. Lindsay of Boston University, Dr. William Muss-Arnolt of Boston, Professor L. H. Elwell of Amherst College, Professor Charles C. Torrey and Professor Addison Van Name of Yale, Professor A. V. W. Jackson and Professor Henry A. Todd of Columbia, Dr. William Hayes Ward, Dr. John P. Peters, Professor Charles P. Fagnani and Miss Lucia C. G. Grieve of New York, Professor I. J. Peritz of Syracuse University, Professor Morris Jastrow of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor George A. Barton of Bryn Mawr, Professor J. A. Montgomery and Albert J. Edmunds of Philadelphia, Dr. Frank R. Blake, Professor Maurice Bloomfield, Professor Hermann Collitz, and Professor Paul Haupt of Johns Hopkins University, Professor Ira M. Price of the University of Chicago, Professor Charles E. Little of Vanderbilt University.

And there are some other eminent scholars of the Society who in the still air of delightful studies cherish an uncommunicated zeal for simplified spelling. There is probably no member of the Oriental Society who would care to be regarded as a public opponent of simplified spelling, or as an advocate of the derivation of Greek from Hebrew, or of Hebrew from Welsh.

## SIMPLIFYING SPANISH SPELLING

Spanish spelling compared with English is almost perfection; but it contains some obvious faults, and these faults some scholars are trying to remove. Among various papers on this subject published by Señor K. Newman, of Quillota, Chile, is "La Ortografía Rrazional," published by Kárls Kabazon, Quillota, 1902, latest edition 1909. This

latest edition contains expressions of opinion from various Spanish scholars in Spain and in South America, and from other scholars—Havet, Richet, and Gaston Paris, of France, Max Müller, Skeat, and Sayce of England, and Whitney of the United States. It gives a list of books, pamphlets and articles, chiefly scientific, printed "kon ortografía rrazional," that is, in the advanced Spanish spelling advocated by Señor Newman and others. This bibliography includes 47 items. In preparation are announced "STUART MILL, De la Libertad," and "HERBERT SPENCER, El Individuo kontra el Estado." The places of publication are Quillota, Valparaiso, Santiago, and Paris.

The following is a specimen of the "ortografía rrazional":

"La rreforma de la ortografía kastellana es una nezesidad ke se impone kada día kon mas bigor. Es menester ke eskribámos komo ablámos. E. DE LA BARRA, Tratado de Ortografía Rreformada, p. 5. Santiago 1897." (NEWMAN, La Ortografía Rrazional, 1909, p. 12.)

## IN MILTON'S OWN SPELLING

The trustees of Columbia University have announced that they propose to publish the first complete edition of all the writings of John Milton, in prose and verse, in English and in Latin. Of course, this welcome edition will reproduce with absolute accuracy the spelling of the poet himself, who was an advocate of a more rational orthography and who did not hesitate to use shorter spellings not generally accepted. It was from Milton, for example, that Coleridge, Lamb, Landor, Dobson, and other writers took over *sovran* as an improvement on *sovereign*. The editing of this Columbia edition of Milton has been confided to Professor W. P. Trent, who is a member of our Advisory Council.

## THE RUBBER STAMP OF APPROVAL

Many persons who use simplified spellings in their correspondence or business also use a rubber stamp to mark their letters with the words "Simplified Spelling," or "Simplified Spellings Used," or other words to intimate to the possibly horrified reader that the writer actually *intends* the occasional deviations into rationalized spelling. Some are content with the elegant simplicity of "S. S.," which means Simplified Spelling. (One learned gentleman intimates that the letters stand for "Sic Sapientes," that is, "Thus the Wise do.")

Such rubber stamps, with any wording desired, may be made at small expense, and may be ordered from any stationer. The Simplified Spelling Board will furnish stamps with the words "SIMPLIFIED SPELLING" at fifteen cents each, postpaid.

Many hardend reformers spell without any explanation or apology, and use no stamps except those required by their Uncle Samuel.

## TO REFORMERS WITH PLANS

In BULLETIN No. 3 (December, 1909), p. 5, an announcement was made "To Reformers with Plans," to the effect that persons who wish to communicate their ideas or schemes to the members of the Simplified Spelling Board and Advisory Council should first put their ideas into print and then send 300 copies to the office of the Board, from which they would be sent to the members for their information. The opportunity has been accepted by one person.

Of course the Board accepts no responsibility for any part of these schemes, which must stand upon what merits they may have, or fall if they are overbalanced by the weight of their other qualities. All that the Board promises is to distribute the copies, if furnished free, among the members of the Board and of the Advisory Council. Every member is willing to receive information of any proposals that relate to the general problem.

## WITHOUT PREJUDIS

A prominent writer for spelling reform on the fonetic basis proposes as a wedge—a thin, entering wedge—a complete fonetic alphabet to be introduced in a field—or should we say a block?—where "no prejudis exists" against pure fonetic spelling, where "there are no old spellings to be given up" or to be replaced by "queer looking" spellings. That field, he says, is the primary school.

No prejudis, no prepossessions, in the primary school? Does the primary school consist only or chiefly of children who have not learned any spelling or acquired any prejudices? Even children have their prepossessions. But they do not control the primary school.

Who controls the primary school? In the first place, the teacher. In the second place, the principal. Above the principal are the superintendent and the school directors; and above these in control are the legislators; to say

nothing of the newspapers, and the public. Are all these without prejudices?

Most of the teachers and principals and superintendents, and indeed many of the directors, and even legislators, respect learning, reason, logic, good rule, good sense, and high principle; and they practise these things so far as circumstances permit; and in this way these things come into the management of schools, to some extent. But circumstances do not always permit; the teachers are busy; they get tired; they grow weary of slow or sluggish superiors or of stupid statutory routine; and they can not urge reforms constantly. The world is too much with them. Like other workers, they have their livings to get. They have to conform, more or less.

Happily there are many teachers in whom alert intelligence, definite knowledge, steady temperament, opportunity, courage, zeal, patience and good humor are so combined that they can and do work cheerfully with the present and hopefully for the future. It is they who will make the future in the schools. And in that future, not only English spelling, but many other things, will be simplified and corrected, in an atmosphere of sweetness and light.

## INFAMOUS FICTION OF SPELLING BOOKS

My father looked round for a suitable academy; and the fame of Dr. Herman's "Philhellenic Institute" came to his ears.

Now, this Dr. Herman was the son of a German music-master, who had settled in England. . . . Dr. Herman had written a great many learned works against every pre-existing method of instruction: that which had made the greatest noise was upon the infamous fiction of SPELLING BOOKS: "A more lying, roundabout, puzzle-headed delusion than that by which we CONFUSE the clear instincts of truth in our accursed systems of spelling, was never concocted by the father of falsehood." Such was the exordium of this famous treatise. "For instance, take the monosyllable CAT. What a brazen forehead you must have, when you say to an infant, C, A, T,—spell CAT: that is, three sounds forming a totally opposite compound—opposite in every detail, opposite in the whole—compose a poor little monosyllable, which, if you would but say the simple truth, the child will learn to spell merely by looking at it! How can three sounds, which run thus to the ear, *see—eh—tee*, compose the sound cat? Don't they rather compose the sound *see—eh—té*, or *ceaty*? How can a system of education flourish that begins by so monstrous a falsehood, which the sense of hearing suffices to contradict? No wonder that the hornbook is the despair of mothers!"—1849 BULWER LYTTON, *The Caxtons*, pt. 2, ch. 1 (ed. 1866, p. 17).

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Simplified Spelling is much cultivated in Washington, especially in the scientific bureaus of the Government. It will be remembered that one energetic simplified speller in the government service adopted the practice in August, 1906, in a manner that made the nation sit up and take notice. The nation was not astonished at his doctrine, but it was astonished at his practice—a public man practicing at once the virtues he recommended. Some public men exhaust their minds with the approval of what is good, but avoidable, and then pass it on to others for their favorable consideration at some convenient time of leisure.

Willis L. Moore, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, uses such simplified spellings as *addrest*, *affixt*, *thruout*, in the bulletins and circulars issued by his bureau.

At the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association of America, held at Cornell University last December, Professor Brander Matthews of Columbia University was elected President for the present year, and Professor C. H. Grandgent of Harvard was reelected as Secretary. Both are members of the Simplified Spelling Board. The Association has repeatedly put itself on record as in favor of the movement for simplification. Its *Publications*, issued in quarterly numbers, appear with the simpler orthographies recommended by the Board.

"The importance of it all is *supreme*." Thus writes the eminent English lexicographer and etymologist, Professor Skeat (Feb. 15), in regard to the efforts now being made in the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain to formulate a definite statement of its policy and its aims with a view to secure the cooperation of the Simplified Spelling Board upon an international basis.

"Recieved" is how Miss Garden, in a perfume testimonial, spells it. As a speller, Miss Garden is a beautiful woman."—1910 *New York Evening Mail*, Feb. 8.

"Recieved" is how Mr. Shakespeare, in one of his plays, spells it. As a speller, Mr. Shakespeare was a great man.

Professor Brunot, of the Sorbonne, has recently published the first half of the third volume of his history of the French language. He defers to the second half of this volume the account of the many simplifications of French

spelling adopted by the French Academy in the first edition of its famous dictionary. Professor Brunot is himself a leader in the movement for the further simplification of French orthography.

The American Philological Association, at the annual meeting in December, 1909, passed this resolution: "That the Chair appoint a committee of three to consider the points of disagreement between our former committee on a phonetic alphabet, and the similar committee of the National Education Association." The members appointed thus far are Professor Hempl and Dr. Charles P. G. Scott. The third member remains to be appointed.

A Philadelphia correspondent notes this arrangement of a troublesome word on a newspaper bulletin board:

"..... thro-  
ugh out ....."

They left the "ugh out." Why not leave the *ugh* out?

Simplified Spelling is popular among electrical engineers. Some of the leading men in the Westinghouse and the General Electric Company have signed the card, and many professors of the science have done the same. Indeed, engineers of all kinds understand clearly that in spelling, as in all the other apparatus of life, what is wanted is something definite, economical and certain.

In his new volume of poems, called 'Nirvana Days,' recently published by Doubleday, Page & Company, Cale Young Rice follows Tennyson's example and spells *tho* and *thro* (for *through*).

Professor Paul Shorey of the University of Chicago—who is a specialist in Greek—reviewed Professor Lounsbury's "English Spelling and Spelling Reform" last fall in the *Dial* of Chicago. Certain of his inferences called forth a protest from Professor Brander Matthews. Professor Shorey replied; but the movement goes on.

More letters dealing with simplified spelling have appeared recently in the *Nation*. Apparently the editors of the literary reviews are being continually surprised at the vitality of the movement for the amelioration of English orthography.

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# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

Important action and activ discussion servd to make the proceedings of the fourth annual meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board of uncommon interest to those who took part.

### ATTENDANCE

The sessions were held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 5 and 6, 1910. The members in attendance were: O. C. Blackmer; Professor James W. Bright, of Johns Hopkins University; Professor Clarence G. Child, of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Melvil Dewey; Professor Oliver F. Emerson, of Western Reserve University; President David Felmley, of the Illinois State Normal University; Dr. Isaac K. Funk; Henry Holt; Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale University; Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, superintendent of education, Nova Scotia; Professor Brander Matthews, of Columbia University; Dr. Charles P. G. Scott; President Homer H. Seerley, of the Iowa State Teachers College; Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, editor of "The Century Dictionary"; Colonel Charles E. Sprague; Professor Calvin Thomas, of Columbia University; E. O. Vaile; and Dr. William Hayes Ward, editor of the *Independent*. All but three were present at the annual dinner.

The Advisory Council was represented at one or more sessions, or at the dinner, by Professor Thomas M. Balliet, of New York University; Miss Katherine D. Blake, principal, Public School No. 6, New York City; Dr. Marcus Benjamin, editor, United States National Museum; Nathan Haskell Dole; Professor William T. Foster, of Bowdoin College; Hamilton Holt, managing editor of the *Independent*; Professor Gordon Ferrie Hull, of Dartmouth College; Professor Lewis F. Mott, of the College of the City of New York; Henry Gallup Paine, editor of the

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN; Miss Julia Richman, district superintendent of public schools, New York city; Professor Edward S. Sheldon, of Harvard University; Professor Henry A. Todd and Professor Raymond Weeks, of Columbia University; and Professor George M. Whicher, of the Normal College of the City of New York.

## TUESDAY'S SESSION

### ROUTINE BUSINESS

Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, the President of the Board, opened the session of Tuesday afternoon with a few informal remarks.

The Secretary, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, then read his annual report, which summarized the work of his office and of the Executive Committee for the year. Much of the information contained in the report has already been printed in the quarterly issues of the BULLETIN; and what is new and of general interest will be found, under separate heads, elsewhere in the present number.

The Treasurer, Colonel Charles E. Sprague, submitted his report, with a certificate of audit by a firm of certified public accountants.

The following committees were appointed:  
1. To nominate officers for the ensuing year: Messrs. Emerson, Bright, and Blackmer. 2. To draft resolutions in memory of lately deceased members: Messrs. Thomas, Matthews, and Smith.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NORMAL SCHOOLS

Dr. Seerley, chairman of the Committee on Simplified Spelling in Normal Schools, which was appointed in 1909, read the report of the committee; the other members being Dr. David Felmley, and President Charles McKenny, of the Wisconsin State Normal School.

The committee reported a strong and growing sentiment in favor of simplified spelling among

teachers and normal schools, and an eager demand for a vocabulary available for use in the common schools. The report emphasized the importance of the oral as well as the printed appeal, but urged the need, for use by speakers, of more abundant literature of information and arguments, such as can be repeated by teachers in their class-rooms. It dwelt on the need of bringing pressure to bear on state departments of education and examining boards, superintendents and boards of trustees, for permissiv use of simplified spelling.

Among the suggestions made were those for specialized propagandas in selected centers, "in order to establish by actual test the success of the endeavors as to simplified spelling, so that there should be evidence, rather than assertion, as to results that would follow"; for recognizing the efforts of educational institutions by admitting them to the status of Advisory Council membership; and for a new classification of working adherents of the cause—such as "adopters"—for all who actually use the simplified forms.

#### DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTIONS

A general and animated discussion of this report occupied the remainder of the session. A special committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Seerley, Felmley, Vaile, Thomas, and Funk, was appointed to consider methods of propagating the cause in the Middle West.

The propositions contained in the report of the Committee on Simplified Spelling in Normal Schools, with certain other suggestions, such as the proposal to change that committee into a "Middle West Council," were referd for consideration to this special committee of five.

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING'S SESSION

##### PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS

1. Dr. Ward red a paper on "The treatment of obscure unaccented vowels."

2. Mr. Blackmer deliverd an address on "How I taught a class of adult foreners to read English."

3. Dr. MacKay spoke on "The progress of simplified spelling in Canada."

4. Dr. Scott, in the absence of Mr. Archer, made a statement of "The work of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain," with special reference to the expected report of the Society's special committee, which is to be submitted to the Society and the Board.

The Secretary red a letter from Professor William Morris Davis, of Harvard University, urging the importance of co-operation of the British and American associations in all proposals and efforts for simplified spelling.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON'S SESSION

##### PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS (*continued*)

5. Professor Thomas, Chairman of the Executiv Committee, deliverd an address on "Plans and policy," laying especial stress on the work of preparing the "General Vocabulary of Simplified Spellings" which had occupied much of the time of the Committee at its meetings during the past year. He exprest the hope that the Vocabulary would be completed in the near future, in spite of the difficulties offerd by certain classes and instances of intractable words.

Mr. Holt, of the Executiv Committee, taking part in the discussion, stated that he had come to the belief that the intractability lay rather in men than in words, and announced his conversion to some of the principles of simplification to which he had hitherto been opposed.

6. Dr. Dewey spoke on "How to secure simplified spelling adoption," advocating a more general use of the leaflets; the adoption of a key alfabet, and a campain by its use to secure a more uniform pronunciation of English words; the employment of a field secretary; a more frequent publication of the BULLETIN, and the issue of special bulletins for the official information of the Board and the Advisory Council.

#### ELECTIONS

The committee on nominations reported in favor of continuing the President and Executiv Committee in offis, and offerd the names of nine members as vice-presidents. The report was accepted and, in absence of opposition, the secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the entire list of nominees. The names of the offisers for 1910-1911 will be found on page 16.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MIDDLE WEST PROPAGANDA

Dr. Seerley presented a report from the committee of five appointed at Tuesday's session. It favord the formation of subsidiary organizations, to be known as "Branches" of the Simplified Spelling Board; the first one, to be cald the "North Central Branch," to be composed of the members of the Board living in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin,

Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota; the Branches to be subordinate to the Executive Committee in respect to the vocabularies to be used, and to report annually to the officers of the Board; but to be free in regard to policies of promotion. The report recommended also that the membership of the Board and of the Advisory Council be increased in the North Central States.

After several members had spoken in its favor, the report was unanimously accepted, and resolutions were adopted authorizing the members of the Board residing in the states named to organize without delay as the North Central Branch, under the temporary chairmanship of Dr. Seerley. The Executive Committee was instructed to prepare and to submit to the Board at its next meeting a by-law covering the general subject of Branches.

#### MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

The Committee on Memorial Resolutions presented the following minute, which was unanimously adopted:

"Since our last Annual Meeting three distinguished members of the Board have died: William Torrey Harris, an eminent educationist; Richard Watson Gilder, a winsome poet and widely beloved philanthropic worker; and David Josiah Brewer, an illustrious jurist. In their several ways all three were great Americans who had deserved well of the Republic. All were busy men, accustomed to large affairs and incessant labor for the general good. For us it is a matter of pride and grateful recollection that they were also friends of orthographic progress; that they recognized its importance, felt its urgency, and were willing to give their influence and in some degree their active co-operation to the furtherance of the cause which this Board has at heart."

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING'S SESSION

The Board did not meet on Wednesday evening, but several members gathered at an informal conference on proposals for a phonetic alphabet for indicating pronunciation in dictionaries.

#### THE ANNUAL DINNER

About sixty guests, members of the Board and the Advisory Council, and their friends, attended the Fourth Annual Dinner in the "Myrtle Room" of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on the evening of Tuesday, April 5.

The printed bill of fare was diversified with appropriate quotations from many writers of

English of various periods. That none present might be in doubt as to the abundance of the fare provided, there was added a monstrous "pie" of different spellings of "enough," with illustrative extracts. On the last page was an entirely new set of "Rules for Unsimplified Spelling." These performances are reprinted in this number of the BULLETIN.

Professor Brander Matthews acted as toastmaster. In his introductory remarks he referred to the more tolerant attitude of the press and the uninformed public—which is becoming better informed through the efforts of the Board—toward simplified spelling. He said: "We have got the enemy on the run. I don't know that he has found it out; but we have found it out."

Letters of regret were read or mentioned, from Mayor Gaynor, Professor William James, of Harvard University, Dr. Robert S. Woodward, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Mr. William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, and many other distinguished gentlemen.

Miss Julia Richman, district superintendent of public schools, New York, was the first speaker, taking for her subject, "The cry of the children." She was followed by Dr. David Felmley, President of the Illinois State Normal University, who spoke on "The spelling of the Middle West." Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, superintendent of education of Nova Scotia, then made an address on "The spelling of Canada;" and Colonel Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer of the Board, responded to the toast of "The Executive Committee." The last speaker was Mr. Nathan Haskell Dole, who discoursed humorously on "Decorative spelling."

Mr. Hudson Maxim, who was to have spoken on "Invention and the justification of innovation, with direct application to simplified spelling," was unfortunately compelled to leave before his place on the program was reached.

#### WASTE FOR WANT OF RULE

Our wrong spelling is the result not of rule but of want of rule, and among its most curious cases are those where the grammarians have managed to put both sound and etymology wrong at once, writing 'island,' 'rhyme,' 'scythe,' where their forefathers rationally wrote 'iland,' 'rime,' 'sithe.' It is reckoned that on an average, a year of an English child's education is wasted in overcoming the defects of the present mode of spelling.—1881 EDWARD B. TYLOR, *Anthropology* (1894), p. 179.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS

In accordance with an amended by-law, the Simplified Spelling Board elected nine vice-presidents at the fourth annual meeting. The Board does not actually need nine vice-presidents to facilitate the conduct of its meetings; but it took this agreeable method of testifying its high opinion of the character and services of some of its most distinguished and active members.

The fact that the Board found nine such members whom it thus delighted to honor—and to honor itself in honoring—testifies to the serious purpose of the cause in which it is engaged. Men such as these nine vice-presidents do not give the work of their brains and of their hands, or lend the weight of their influence, to a movement that they do not regard as of the highest importance. Here are the nine:

**ANDREW CARNEGIE**, diffuser of knowledge, preacher of common sense, who has given liberally to promote the movement for the introduction of common sense into English spelling, as a part of the great movement for the introduction of reason, justice, generosity and peace into the conduct of all human affairs.

**FREDERICK J. FURNIVALL**, scholar, editor, reformer, a man of prowess on land and water, the great apostle of common sense in scholarship and literature, founder of many societies, through which he has restored to the English-speaking nations a great part of their buried records; the main inspirer and first editor of the great Oxford English Dictionary, an unparalleled record of the intellectual achievements of the Anglo-Saxon race.

**THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON**, author, soldier, publicist, reformer, one of a famous group of literary men, but no less known in the van of political and social progress, serene and unalarmed amid the wreck of spelling and the crush of words.

**DAVID STARR JORDAN**, educator, scientist, publicist, administrator, explorer in many fields of science, familiar with fishes and men, promoter of reason and critic of fallacies in public affairs, advocate of an improved spelling as a part of the apparatus of reason in the future work and life of mankind.

**ALEXANDER H. MACKAY**, educator, administrator, superintendent of public education of Nova Scotia, promoter of all good ideas, judicious and fearless advocate of improved spellings

as a part of an improved system of education in Great and Greater Britain.

**FRANCIS A. MARCH**, scholar, teacher, philosopher, philanthropist; leader of Anglo-Saxon learning in America, prime inspirer and promoter of the movement to teach the English language, and to simplify its spelling, on the lines of scholarship and science; who, as leader and adviser, and as the writer of successive reports and proposals of the Philological Association and the Spelling Reform Association, established the principles and directed the course of the movement which the Simplified Spelling Board is now, with means in hand, carrying on to success.

**HOMER H. SEERLEY**, educator, speaker, leader in the National Education Association, trusted adviser of his associates in normal school teaching and administration, who, in simplified spelling and all other matters of educational progress, is the advocate and prompt practitioner of common sense, under the control of conscience and reason.

**WALTER WILLIAM SKEAT**, eminent etymologist, erudite, accurate, lucid; co-worker with Furnivall in the restoration of the elder English literature, editor of many important texts, explainer of English, teacher of teachers, friend of all learners, looking to the future, and ready to lead the way into new fields of orthography and literature.

**ANDREW D. WHITE**, scholar, educator, historian, administrator, diplomatist, man of clear vision and of high ideals, who has included the regulation of English spelling as a part of the plan of extending reason for the general benefit of mankind, and who, as the head and the intellectual founder of a great university, gave his support to the cause of simplified spelling at a time when the idea was generally scouted or ignored.

## PHI!

Those profound classical scholars whose knowledge of Greek is confined to the belief that there is a Greek letter *ph* which must be repeated in all languages that contain words from the Greek, will be pleased to read that a writer in the *Engineering News* of March 3, 1910, has an article on a special type of transporting which he calls and spells "transpherage." This happy invention is respectfully referred to the erudite lovers of *ph*. For ourselves we prefer the more rapid transit of "transference."

## IN THE NEWSPAPER WORLD

The Chicago *Evening Post Friday Literary Review*, March 11, 1910, contains on page 4 an article entitled "The Speller Militant." It begins with apparent hostility; but it soon turns out that the writer intellectually approves of simplified spelling. He simply has no hope of its success, because "conventional spelling is no more absurd, illogical and inconsistent than mankind." And the writer, being the editor of a Chicago paper, is of course aware that mankind is "absurd, illogical and inconsistent." He concludes: "The protest against reformed spelling is not a protest of order against disorder. It is a protest of romantic and picturesque confusion against dull and deadly consistency. . . . Spelling reformers are always right, but—they should remember the fate of Aristides." But what is the fate of Aristides now?

A correspondent sends a copy of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, April 10, 1910, containing an article entitled "Sensible Spelling." It is a sensible article, and our correspondent says it "indicates a change of heart for this journal." We have not noted the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* as opposed to the idea of simplification. Two years ago, on the occasion of the meeting of the National Education Association in Cleveland, it printed several articles on the general subject that were reasonable in view and temperate in terms. We are glad to record the fact that the *Plain Dealer* has definitely taken the right view. If a plain dealer has the right principles, we may hope that he will come in time to the right practis.

Devotion to simple spelling can be gauged by the signs on office doors. A trip through any big office building will show numerous instances of freak spelling that the sign painter is not responsible for. Inquiry brings out that the occupants of the offices are disciples of the simple spelling board. Glu manufacturers, numatic tire companies, fonografs, fotografers, patent medicin concerns, dealers in many kinds of "devises," arkitects, musik publishers, farmacists and makers of specially developt films are a few of the business people who proclaim their contempt for the ordinary rules of orthography.—*The Sun*, New York, March 28, 1910.

"If you see it in the *Sun*, it's so"—or so-so. But the above is actually based upon facts. It is true that some persons who believe in simplified spelling also use it, even on their signs of business. It is a sign of progress. Let the friends of simplification, and let its enemies, look about them, and observ the signs of the times. In the

future even the signs of the *Times* and of the *Sun* and of other newspapers will be brought up to date; and their opposition to progress in spelling will be forgotten, like their yesterday's editorials.

The fourth annual meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board, which took place April 5-6, 1910, was notist more or less in the newspapers. It was at once remarkt by several persons that the reports in the newspapers, while meager and inexact and in part quite erroneous, were nevertheless not so inexact and erroneous as the reports of former meetings. The editorial comments showd a diminution of the flippancy and vituperation with which it has pleased certain newspapers heretofore to speak of the movement and of the Board and of its supporters. Some of our friends are hopeful enuf to believe that this improvement of tone and diminution of error are progressiv. They believe that the newspapers or the editors or the reporters are becoming better informd. We hope that this is so.

## SPELLING PROBLEMS

OH, spelling is the queerest thing!

There's nothing quite so queer and odd!  
Sometimes I think the spelling-book  
Is just a great big game of fraud.

It says that t-o-e is toe,  
And so it's truly hard to see  
Why n-o-e won't do for know,  
And why is go without an e!

It says d-o will stand for do,  
And p-i-n is right for pin,  
But still y-o won't work for you,  
And b-i-n is wrong for been.

It says e-n-o-u-g-h  
Is quite the way to spell enough,  
Though d-o-u-g-h is dough  
And m-u-double-f is muff.

It says—but what's the use to talk?  
The spelling-book is just a bluff!

—"JAC" LOWELL in *Every Other Sunday*.

## TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO

I know what is pleaded in defence of our present Orthography, viz. that in this manner of Writing, the Etymologies and Derivations of Words appear, which if we should write according as we pronounce, would not so easily be discerned. To which I answer, That the Learned would easily observe them notwithstanding, and as for the vulgar and illiterate it is all one to them, they can take no notice of such things.—1691 RAY, *Collection of English Words*, ed. 2, p. 15.

## A SIMPLIFIED SPELLING-BOOK

Preparation of the proposed "Vocabulary of Simplified Spellings," to be issued when completed and approved, as a sort of spelling-book or dictionary of simplified spellings, has occupied many sessions of the Executive Committee during the past year.

The process has been to consider in alphabetic order the words contained in an ordinary dictionary, and to adopt simplified forms according to definite rules and principles. The progress so far made by the committee is much greater than is indicated by the statement that they have just completed the words beginning with C. The first three letters bring up nearly all the crucial questions that have to be settled; and when the general principles of simplification for classes of words are firmly established, their application can proceed more rapidly.

## IN MEMORIAM

The Hon. DAVID J. BREWER, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, died March 28, 1910, at his home in Washington, D. C. An able jurist, an eloquent speaker, a learned man, a high-minded citizen, a critic of all wrong tendencies in public life, an opponent of many popular fallacies, Justice Brewer used his great influence uniformly on the side of what is good and true. He always spoke his mind. He was strongly in favor of the movement for the simplification of English spelling, and had been a member of the Simplified Spelling Board since its organization.

SAMUEL LANGHORNE CLEMENS, universally known as Mark Twain, died April 21, 1910, after a lingering illness. The fame of Mr. Clemens is world-wide. His wonderful gift of humor was used not merely to entertain but to improve mankind. He wrote against cruelty to animals and against other public evils, and was a keen and relentless exposé of shams of many sorts. He favored the simplification of English spelling, and became a member of the Simplified Spelling Board at its organization in 1906.

Dr. CORNELIUS W. LARISON, a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, and a long-time advocate of simplified spelling, died at his home in Ringoes, New Jersey, April 15, 1910. Dr. Larison was a remarkable man. A teacher, a physician, an author, a publisher, a printer, he did many things, wrote many books, urged many causes, and was very useful in his

day and generation. He published for many years the *Journal of Orthoepy and Orthography*.

Professor WILLIAM GRAHAM SUMNER, of Yale University, died April 12, 1910. In his own field of political economy, Professor Sumner was an acknowledged master. He took a great interest in every forward movement. One of the forward movements that especially engaged his interest was that for the simplification of spelling. He was one of the first among the scholars and literary men who signed the "Promise as to Twelve Words" which led to the formation of the Simplified Spelling Board, and was one of the first members of the Advisory Council.

## A WARNING FROM AFRICA

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain has just published an important pamphlet, No. 8, May, 1910, entitled "Simplified Dutch v. Complicated English in South Africa," by Joseph Hogarth, of Johannesburg, Transvaal. It contains the opinions of a number of educators and inspectors of schools in South Africa to the effect that in the schools of that great country "the progress of Dutch is very marked, while that of English is disappointing." It contains reports from inspectors of schools, and others, which in the opinion of the author "teach the great lesson that the absence of a consistent spelling makes all the difference between the slow and tedious advances of the one language [English] and the rapid and easy progress of the other [Dutch]." The author adds: "Another great lesson which South Africa offers is that something ought to be done soon. The time is now ripe for action."

## A PROFETIC AUTOCRAT

I spell 'honour' and 'favour' without the 'u,' and I may yet come to 'catalog' and 'filosofi.' At any rate I should not care to be an obstructive in the way of any well-organized scholarly attempt to reform our English—and American—language. It is certainly barbarous to make 'ough' take so many forms of pronunciation as it now does. There are many things I should like to have a glimpse of a hundred years from now, among the rest of our English spelling. I have little doubt that many of the changes you contemplate will have taken place, and that I should look back upon myself in 1880 as a hopeless bigot to superannuated notions long since extinct.—1880 OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, Letter to the *Home Journal*, New York, reprinted in a pamphlet entitled "Sensible Spelling," 1881, p. 18.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

The *Normal College Gazette* of Truro, Nova Scotia, which uses simplified spelling, has been criticized by an other school paper for this recognition of progress. It turns a meek cheek to the smiter: "We beseech our contemporary not to become alarmed at our action," it says; and after gently inviting the smiter to write to the Simplified Spelling Board for information, it closes with the statement: "We are sure that after a little study of the subject, our friend will become an enthusiastic supporter of the reform." This is unkind. To require the opponents of simplified spelling to study it, is to take away from them all their ammunition.

Lecturers who wish to distribute the circulars of the Simplified Spelling Board may obtain them for the asking; and it is always open to the speaker to suggest to his hearers to write a request for information on a postcard address to the Board. And then the inquirer is lost — or saved. He who deliberately sends for information is likely to read it; and if the information is correct and the arguments are sound, is likely to be converted.

The Committee on Normal Schools, of the Simplified Spelling Board and of the National Education Association, consisting of Dr. Homer H. Seerley, Dr. David Felmley, and Charles McKenny, presidents of important normal schools in the Middle West, have been sending to the principals and teachers in the normal schools of the country a series of circular letters, calling attention to the movement for simplification, to the successful efforts to introduce simplified spelling in public schools, and to the importance of gaining the co-operation of all the normal schools in the movement so as to prevent conflicting proposals and consequent waste of effort. In consequence of these efforts and the correspondence arising from them, there has been a considerable increase in the number of inquiries coming to the Board from teachers and students in the normal schools.

"A disputation on spelling" was one of the numbers on the program of the English conference of the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club, at its forty-fifth meeting, held at Ann Arbor, March 30—April 2. Three papers were read: "Wild spellings I have met," by Mr. H. A. Kenyon, of the University of Michigan; "The spelling bogie: A heterodox opinion," by Dr. H. P. Breitenbach, of the University of Michigan; and

"From the teacher's point of view, would simplified spelling be an improvement on the present spelling?" by Miss Myra B. True, of Grand Rapids. The leven is working.

The President of the State Normal School at Milwaukee, Charles McKenny, writes, May 18, 1910: "The faculty of the school are very sympathetic toward the simplified spelling movement. We have been using simplified spelling in our classes for several years and to a degree in our publications. We are also using it in the training school, which includes grades 1—8."

At the fourteenth annual meeting of the National Commercial Teachers' Federation, December 27—30, 1909, a report was made by a special Committee consisting of Miss Gertrude O. Hunnicutt of Spokane, Washington, Mr. O. H. White, of St. Louis, Missouri, and Mr. W. A. Hadley, of Chicago, Illinois, recording the progress of opinion among the commercial teachers in regard to simplified spelling, and recommending the movement to the further favor of the Federation. The report was published in the proceedings of the Federation in simplified spelling. It is understood that the proceedings hereafter will be printed thruout in simplified spelling. This result is due to the growing belief among teachers in business schools that the use of simplified spelling is required by the principles of economy and directness which ought to govern such schools. The Committee was continued and will make a further report next year at the meeting in Chicago. The address of the chairman is Miss Gertrude O. Hunnicutt, Spokane, Washington.

## DEBATES ON SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

Simplified spelling is a frequent subject of debate among the students in colleges, normal schools and high schools. The participants frequently write to the Board asking for information, which of course is always sent to them. We have not heard in any case that the debaters on the negative have completely overthrown the argument for simplified spelling. The only trouble of which we have learned is that it is sometimes difficult to get persons to take the negative side; and those who volunteer or are compelled to take the negative side often complain that they can find no literature of any account on that side. This is a complaint which ought to stir the champions of the conventional spelling. Surely, they ought to supply their side with something worth repeating.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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## PROVE YOUR INTEREST

Not all those who subscribed for Volume I of the BULLETIN have availed themselves of the invitation extended and the opportunity afforded to subscribe for Volume II.

No doubt in most cases the omission has been due to oversight or to the inconvenience of sending so small an amount by mail. It is really more convenient to send a dollar than a dime; and many do, with a list of ten addresses. Some send ten dollars and a hundred addresses.

Any one who is at all interested in simplified spelling is likely to be interested ten cents' worth. It is our hope that all who are interested to that extent will subscribe without further notice. A convenient way is to send five two-cent postage stamps—or two fives, or ten ones, or one ten. This proves the subscriber's interest and helps to pay the expense.

This number, the first of the second year, is sent to all former subscribers and to many persons who have not yet subscribed. But this form of reminder will not be repeated.

The regular size of the BULLETIN is eight pages. Yet, on occasion, we shall not hesitate to increase the number, even to double it, as we now do for the second time.

## SPRED IT

The prime need of the cause of Simplified Spelling is the spread of information. Any one who chooses to do so can spread information. Put the subject somewhere on your program for school talks, for institute lectures, for the university extension course, for your literary club. It is not necessary to have a lecture by some well-known speaker. Bring the subject up, and let those who are present know and feel that it is a real subject, quite as important as any of the accepted subjects brought before such

gatherings. Any one can have the necessary literature and arguments in black and white, for the mere asking. Send a postal card to the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York. Or ask any member of the Board or Advisory Council or any local agent.

## "TASTE" IN SPELLING

An alumnus of Bowdoin College writes to the editor of the *Bowdoin Orient*, April 29, 1910, page 31, objecting to the use of simplified spelling in that paper. He says, among other things, that the simplified spelling used by the editor "is not only incorrect, it is a fad and therefore in bad taste."

How do critics of this type determine that a particular spelling is "incorrect" or "in bad taste"? If many thousands of the best scholars, philologists and educators believe and say that a particular spelling is correct, or more correct than some other spelling, with what justification can a few offhand critics, not recognized as scholars, set up their notions as superior? And if we are to dispute about taste, what kind of taste is displayed by such offhand critics, when they ascribe "bad taste" to the deliberate and repeated proposals of the leading scholars and philologists of the world, men who are the leaders in the departments of learning and science which they cultivate?

## MOTION STUDY AND SPELLING

Mr. Frank Gilbreth, M.A.Soc.M.E., publishes in the April number of the *Industrial Engineer and the Engineering Digest* the first part of an article on "The Economic Value of Motion Study in Standardizing the Trades." It is printed in the uneconomic and unstandardized spelling in common use, but the author is put right by the following "Editor's Note" (page 265): "At the request of the author we desire to state that the manuscript was prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board (1 Madison Ave., New York). It is his contention that simplified spelling fulfills the requirements of the laws of motion study. We have preferred, however, to follow our usual style in printing the article."

The editor recognizes that there is no prejudice against any technical suggestions of a practical engineer, and that there may be increased economy in the methods and apparatus of mechanical

work; but he has—or believes that his readers have—a prejudis against permitting a practical engineer to show the economic value of simplified spelling.

In thus obstructing one of the purposes of his contributor, the editor is exercizing his undouted right; but the world is in motion, and in due time the editor of this scientific journal may come to recognize that a man who has—as the editor confesses by printing the contribution—sound ideas in mechanical science and technology, may also have sound ideas on the management of English spelling.

### GUESSWORK

A story is going the rounds that a United States senator receivd recently a letter which began thus:

"I din'j wish ji wirry yiu, but kan yiu nij prikure fir me ine if thise ild Lajin biiks?" It is added that "the spelling in the rest of the letter was equally peculiar, and abounded in j's and k's." The senator wrote for an explanation. It came. His correspondent had been using an old typewriter, from which "the letters o and t and c had dropped off and could not be found. He thought by using k and j constantly he would devise a system which would be intelligible until he could get the old machine repaired."

And the plan workt. The fact is that English words are caught, in ordinary reading, not by perceiving all the letters and all the sounds in them, but by perceiving only a part of the letters. It is possible to take a page of English print and to strike out at random one letter from every word, or to strike out every third or fourth letter in the whole page and still to leave the rest intelligible. That is, one can *guess* from the context, or from the rest of the word, what the missing letter is. And the same is true, of course, if the missing letter is replaced by some letter that obviously does not belong to the word, as in the case mentiond.

It is for this reason that the present English spelling, irregular and untrue as it is, can easily be red by persons who have learnd it. The irregular and untrue letters do not wholly destroy the purpose of spelling. We can 'get along' with them, and we could get along with them for ever—but only with a constant loss of time and money, with constant irritation, and with a constant warping of the reason and memory of children, who have to learn these irregularities

along with the normal letters that belong to the words. The question is, Shall we continue for ever the trouble and waste which the present spelling involvs, altho we nevertheless effect the main purpose of writing and printing, or shall we effect this same purpose more fully, more easily, and with less trouble and expense, by an improved spelling?

### SIMPLICITY

Some spirited persons write to the Simplified Spelling Board, or to periodicals, to protest against certain simplified spellings which they specify, using in their letters of protest other simplified forms that they have unconsciously adopted. Sometimes they denounce as new spellings the orthodox forms that every body else uses. The defenders of the conventional spelling do not know even that well. One who knows it well must wish to change it.

Spelling is a science and an art, and can not be masterd except by effort. When we consider the needless difficulties containd in the irregularities and contradictions of English spelling, it is no wonder that only a small minority of the people succede in acquiring sufficient knowledge and skill in spelling. Even when spelling shall have been largely improved, it will still, like arithmetic and geograpy, reading and writing, have to be studied. The student will have to work a little. He that will not work, neither shall he spell.

### HOW TO QUOTE

To quote a man is to tell what he said—not what he says. You can not quote an opinion, a view, or a habit of mind. You can quote only known words.

If you quote the *spoken* words of a man, write down only those words, in the order in which they were spoken. Use your own spelling and punctuation, but only so as to show just what he said.

If you quote a man's *written* words, quote them just as they are written, and as they appear on the paper. You can ignore very obvious slips and errors of spelling and the like, if you quote for no other purpose than that of conveying or discussing his *ideas*. If you quote for the very *words*, let the very words appear, in just the form in which they were written. But even in this remember the man's intent, and ignore the slips that occur in the tedious process of writing or copying. It may be your turn next.

If you quote a man's printed words, quote them as they are printed. Don't change anything whatever, unless you say so at the time of quoting them. In particular, don't change the spelling, either into the conventional spelling, or into any simplified spelling. Here again curtesy requires that obvious oversights be ignored.

It is particularly desirable that writers about simplified spelling should quote printed matter exactly, especially the spelling. In quoting any writer, even the most modern, find an authentic edition, and quote that. If there is any controversy or critical point involvd, specify the edition, the date, and the page. This seems particular, but it is easy; and at any rate, it is the right and scholarly thing to do. When there is any controversy or any critical point involvd, it is a grave fault to use an unverified quotation or any careless unauthorized reprint.

## THE DOCTRIN OF SIGNATURES

The Simplified Spelling Board has on file many thousand cards signd by persons who "agree to use in their correspondence, as far as may be practicable, the simple spellings that have been recommended," etc. Most of the signatures are clearly written. The average of skill and legibility is much greater than the average in other sets of signatures, for example, signatures to political petitions, or collected autographs of noted men. This is doubtless because most of the Signers are persons who have an Idea in which they are interested. Their interest shows itself in the very penning of the letters of the words. The reasonableness which is implied in approval of the simplification of spelling shows itself also in the feeling that one's signature should be clear to every eye.

It is interesting to have a picturesque signature, the secret of which is known only to one's frends; but curtesy to strangers, not to mention common sense, suggests that every one should write his name so that it can be red.

There are some reformers, some Signers even, who think, or at least write, otherwise. It is almost always possible to decifer even their picturesque handwritings, but we know that it is only successful inference, and not ocular perception of the actual letters—which are, in fact, *not there*. To consult directories and lists of surnames and ancient documents in order to determin whether certain scratches mean 'J,' or 'I,' or 'T,' or 'S,' or 'L,' "Montgomery" or

"MacGinnis," "Cholmondeley" or "Schmulevitz," is an educativ exercise, but takes time. And in one's address why write '125' so that it shall be rich in suggestion of '743' or '438'?

## UNCRITICAL DIACRITICS

"Webster's New International Dictionary" dated 1910, retains as the alfabet used in its respelling for pronunciation the same set of markt letters which appeard in the former editions of "Webster" dated 1864 and 1890, with a few minor changes. It is to be regretted that the proprietors have not admitted any scientific revision of the notation, or the substitution of a truly scientific notation.

It will be a matter of surprize to the scholars of the next generation that in a dictionary of the English language publisht in 1910 the letters *a, e, i, o, u*, were not included in the alfabet for pronunciation, while 27 other characters, formd by adding various lines and dots above the letters *a, e, i, o, u*, were used to make up a notation without any scientific basis. Not one recognized philologist accepts or uses in his own scientific work this grotesque notation of sounds.

It is to be hoped that the proprietors will not wait an other twenty years before admitting a modern system of indicating sounds into a work that in other respects does not lag behind the age.

## THEY WON'T PLAY

Out of the many thousand Signers of the agreement to use simplified spelling, only six or seven have written to ask that their names be withdrawn. Some of these gave the reason that the Board does not go fast enough; others gave the reason that some of its advocates have put forth opinions which the objectors did not approve. One Signer, a lady, who withdrew her name, did so on the express ground that she had heard a prominent advocate of the reform (a man, by the way, of great learning and many accomplishments) remark in a public speech that the adoption of simplified spelling would be a distinct advantage in business. She thought that was a sordid reason to give for so noble a reform!

Other persons spare themselvs the pain of withdrawing their approval, by not giving it—on the ground that some advocates of simplified spelling also favor municipal ownership of public utilities, or the single tax, or prohibition, or "votes for women," or some other ideas which these observers believe to be erroneous or impracticable.

## PROPER VIEW OF "PROPAGANDA"

An instructor in art in Harvard University, wrote (March 21, 1910), on one of the cards sent out to members of college faculties:

"I can only regard your propoganda as an offence."

It has been said that "you can tell a 'Harvard man' two squares off, but you can't tell him much." Has it fallen to us to tell this 'Harvard man' that the correct spelling is *propaganda*? But we do so cheerfully. It is our offis to dissipate ignorance in those who sit among the learned. His informd colleags in the university would have done as much, if he had taken the trouble to consult them.

No remarks need be made about the erroneous but current spelling of "offence," or about the gentleman's unhappy plight if he has correctly placed the "only."

## A FAIR QUESTION

The Simplified Spelling Board has publisht many circulars and bulletins, regular and special, full of statements about spelling, etymology, literature, history, biograpy, education, science. Much of this matter has been in the immediate center of controversy.

In all this controversy, no opponent of simplified spelling has pointed out a single case of error in statement, or in any point of learning or science, made in these circulars and bulletins.

The inference is, either that the Board has been right in its statements and in its philology and science; or else that the opponents of simplified spelling who read its publications do not know when the Board does make a mistake.

Which inference will they accept?

## WHAT COLLEGES MIGHT DO

A correspondent suggests that it would be well if colleges and universities would print in their catalogs, in describing the conditions of entrance, the words "In spelling, the use of forms more fonetic than those in common use will not be considerd an error."

Of course, it is to be assumed that this rule is alrely followd wherever the examination papers are markt by a man who understands the principles of spelling, and who feels himself authorized to mark as right what is right: but the mere following of such a rule, if done silently, has no such effect on public opinion as would the public announcement of the rule.

An explicit statement of such a policy would relieve instructors who now feel constrained to mark as "unauthorized" many simplified spellings which they really approve.

## REASONS FOR SIGNING

Signing the card agreeing to use simplified spellings "as far as may be practicable" does not bind any one to any thing difficult or exacting; but it promotes the general movement, not only by giving courage to the hesitating, but by keeping the Signers in touch with the movement. Many a Signer who signd with some hesitation, due to his slight knowledge of the movement, has become thereby thoroly informd by progressiv reading, and has become activ to promote what at first he reluctantly approved.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING IN ONTARIO

At the meeting of the Ontario Education Association, which was held in Toronto, March 30, 1910, Professor John Dearness, M.A., of London, Ontario, a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board and Secretary of the Ontario Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society, made a report reviewing the progress of simplified spelling in that province and elsewhere.

On the list of the Ontario Branch, which was organized in March, are the names of about sixty prominent educators, including university professors, school inspectors, and teachers in high and normal schools. The Branch is undertaking an extensiv propaganda. Many of the teachers in Ontario have signd the card issued by the Simplified Spelling Board and have protested against the reactionary edict issued by the educational authorities of the Province requiring the use of the spelling *-our* in words like *honor*, in sted of the spelling *-or*, which in Ontario as in the United States has been the customary orthograpy.

At the same meeting a resolution was adopted by the public school teachers that "until a simpler mode of spelling is adopted only one mark instead of two should be deducted for errors in entrance examination papers."

This is in line with similar action in other quarters, including civil servis examinations. Whatever one may think about the desirability of simplified spelling, it is surely reasonable to ask that proficiency in the old spelling should not be rated beyond its true value in computing the results of examinations.

## THE EXPECTED

Sir Alfred Austin, Poet Laureate of England, has written a poem "To one expected from Rome." It was published in the *New York Times*, Thursday, May 5, 1910. It contains these lines: "For my heart has ne'er wavered while you were afar,  
Tho no nightingale quavered to moonlight or star."

Is the spelling *tho* intended as a delicate compliment to the advanced views on spelling entertained by a well-known member of the Simplified Spelling Board, who was expected from Africa, was later "expected from Rome," and is now expected from England?

## RULES FOR UNSIMPLIFIED SPELLING

The bill of fare of the fourth annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, April 5, 1910, contained a list of twenty-one "Rules for Unsimplified Spelling." We give the following rules. Those omitted are equally sound.

1. **DOUBLE IT.** Crammed, dammed, jammed, rammed, shammed, dimmed, chinned, dinned, sinned, donned, fonned, funny, gammon and spinach, collar, dollar, killing, pallid, horrid, pepper, rubber, ET CETERA.

2. **HALVE IT.** Camel, elephant, lemon, enemy, tenant, penance, finish, pity, punish, copy, choler, dolorous, solemn, stolid, habit, tepid, valid, ET CETERA ET PLURA.

4. **SPLICE IT.** Mediæval, primæval, æsthetic, cesophagus, subpœna, phœcnicks.

6. **CROWD IT.** Beau, beauteous, eight, height, adieu, view, draught, though, through, sieve, schism, scissors, asthma, catarrh, comptroller, phthisic, apophthegm, apaphthy, capiphthal.

7. **KNOCK IT.** Knock, knack, knuckle, knell, knoll; know knowledge, know knowtice, know knews.

9. **ROUGH IT.** Rough, chough, slough, tough, cough, trough, Boughton, Houghton, Stoughton, hiccough, cuttough rough, ough to snough.

12. **TWIST IT.** Centre, fibre, mitre, nitre, theatre, massacre, lucre, pocre, jocre, acre, bacre, able, fable, feeble, gabble, wabble, rubble, ruble, double, trouble; colonel, infolonel nonscents.

14. **WRING IT.** Wring, wrong, wrung, wreathe, writhe, wring the changes, wring out the old, wring in the gnu.

15. **WRECK IT.** Wreck, wrack, wreckless, wretch, wreak it, wrack it, wracket, wrocket, wreckless of wrocky wroads.

17. **WRONG IT.** Wrong, wright, rite, rong; our spelling, wright or rong—but may she ever be wrong!

21. **CHUCK IT!**

## -OUR OR -OR

-OUR, also speld -OR. Examples: Arbour, ardour, armour, behaviour, candour, clamour, clangour, colour, demeanour, enamour, endeavour, favour, fervour, flavour, honour, labour, languour, rigour, odour, rumour, saviour, savour, tremour, tumour, valour, vapour, vigour.

These archaic forms are the accidental relics of several hundred words formerly speld with -our or -or, which have all gone over to -or, except these few. The simplified forms of the words earlier speld ancestour, assessour, auditour, authour, censour, confessor, creditour, doctour, dolour, emperour, errour, executour, flavour, governour, horror, inferiour, intercessour, inventour, jurour, manour, mirrour, oppressour, oratour, predecessour, senatour, successour, superiour, tenour, terrour, traitour, transgressour, vendour, victour, warrior, etc., are accepted by everybody; while the 27 forms in -our above mentioned (especially 20 of them) are fondly cherished in Great Britain, especially among publishers and printers, as against the "American" spellings ardor, armor, favor, honor, labor, etc., used by Spenser, Shakespeare, Bacon, Hooker, Raleigh, Coke, Selden, Jonson, Milton, Butler, Cowley, Bunyan, Dryden, Prior, Pope, Young, Blackstone, Robertson, and other "American" writers.

Of these cherished forms only the following are expressly entered in a list of "Some alternative or difficult spellings" included in "Rules for composition and readers at the University Press, Oxford, 1904" (p. 10-16): Demeanour, (dis) colour, (good) humour, rigour, tumour. This list favors *tenor*, and prescribes "*rigors* (in med.)" The other words are not mentioned; not because the forms in -our are not favored, but because the forms in -or are not even considered.—C. P. G. S. "Synopsis of English Spellings" (unpublished) §394

## THE TORMENT OF SPELLING

You think me foolish to call instruction a torment; but if you had been as much used as myself to hear poor little children first learning their letters, and then learning to spell, if you had ever seen how stupid they can be for a whole morning together, and how tired my poor mother is at the end of it, . . . you would allow, that to *torment* and to *instruct* might sometimes be used as synonymous words.—1818 JANE AUSTEN, *Northanger Abbey*, ch. 14 (1892), p. 102.

## ALFABETIC LIST

The list of 3300 simplifications published March 5, 1909, has been widely distributed during the year and has met with wide approval, the main criticism among the advocates of simplification being that it does not contain certain simplified forms which the writers think ought to be there—forms which are likely enough to be adopted in the future. The list has been introduced into many schools and colleges, and is used to a great extent in business offices and by individual supporters.

There are reports that the list has been used as a standard of reference in simplified spelling bees; but those bees do not yet swarm, and it would be a dozing and humble bee indeed that would be satisfied with that list as a permanent nest.

## ESPERANTO AND SIMPLE SPELLING

The simplified spelling of English is approved and supported by a good many Esperantists. Many persons interested in Esperanto and other international languages write to the Simplified Spelling Board for information, which is of course always given. The idea of an artificial language for immediate international use in scientific and business correspondence is not the same as the idea of a scientific regulation of the existing English spelling; but the two ideas have some points of contact, and both are intended to promote an easier and wider international understanding and good will.

In Esperanto it is interesting to notice that the alphabet has been accepted, and used, by many thousand persons, altho it contains several new letters or letters marked with diacritics, some of them quite novel. This seems to dispose of the frequent objection to any regulation of the English alphabet for fonetic purposes, that marked letters and diacritics are 'impracticable.' If many thousand persons all over the world can accept and use, suddenly, a considerable number of marked letters, some of them novel and awkward, it would seem possible that a considerable number of educators and teachers could use a few marked letters, arranged on a uniform plan, such as are already in wide use by scholars throughout the world.

This would seem to be so especially in view of the fact that all the accepted dictionaries and spelling-books use, and have been using for several generations, a great number of marked letters,

which have become so entrenched in use that it is difficult to displace them by anything systematic or scientific. No one who intellectually approves or willingly uses the notations given in the current dictionaries is entitled to object to the use of diacritics in any other fonetic scheme. The chief difference between the fonetic notations used in the common dictionaries and spelling-books, and the fonetic notations used by scholars, is that the former are very bad and very widely used, and that the latter are good and not widely used.

## "SKIMPLIFIED"

A correspondent in Philadelphia says, in a letter dated May 7, "I find myself now so thoroughly turned over to simplified spelling habits that I practically never use any of the older spellings. The habit is so strong that it no longer requires any special effort of nerve to write 'barbed wire fence' on my survey notes, or to address an envelop to the 'offis.'"

The same correspondent writes, "A friend of mine, who would use simplified spelling if it were not for his wife, referred to it the other day as 'skimplified spelling.'" We suspect that this happy term was invented by the foe in the household. Col. 3:18, 19.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

Those friends of spelling reform who are not able to contribute much to its advancement now may in some cases be able to do so in their wills. It is not too late. Like all public reforms, this reform requires financial support.

The following is a form of bequest:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the Simplified Spelling Board, a corporation organized under the laws of New York, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, to be used at their discretion in the promotion of a simplification of English spelling."

The blank may be filled by any number not exceeding the value of the estate.

## REVISED TO DATE

Said the dog: "When that trip to the cupboard  
Was taken by Old Mother Hupboard,

Her search was a stall—

She had eaten it all

Herself;—and I know, for I rupboard!"

—Puck.

## BUSINESS SPELLING

Frederik A. Fernald of Buffalo, in a communication published in the *Buffalo Commercial*, April 18, 1910, concerning his observations of "the attitude of many business men toward the simplified spelling which is coming into use," says, among other things:

The up-to-date manufacturer invites you to "Send for a catalog," and the secretary of his trade association makes up a "program" for a convention, neither having time to waste in writing two useless letters on the end of a word, any more than he has for making flourishes when addressing an envelop. The railroads of this country have spent millions in constructing cut-offs, reducing grades and tunneling rivers and mountains in order to save time. So it is not surprising that the Nickel Plate has adopted the same policy in the matter of spelling. [It uses the spelling "thru" in its time-tables.]

The business world has no objection to things because they are new. It is eager for time-saving devices, and just as soon as it becomes convinced of the commercial importance of simplified spelling, it will have nothing else.

Mr. Fernald is the publisher of "The Index Guide to Buffalo and Niagara Falls," in which he uses "about all the simplifications recommended by the Board." He was formerly assistant editor of the *Popular Science Monthly*, and was at one time Secretary of the Orthographic Union of New York.

## ENOUGH—NOT TO SAY TOO MUCH

(Reprinted from the bill of fare of the fourth annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 5, 1910)

These are some of the spellings with which the word we spell ENOUGH has been richly provided in bygone years. Until the seventeenth century (and, within some limits, later), the different spellings indicated varieties of pronunciation, the *ou* and *ow*, and *g*, *3*, *h*, *gh*, and *ch*, were equivalent notations:

A.D. 800-1200 (ANGLO-SAXON): Genoh, genog, ginoh, ginog. Plural: Genoge, etc.

1200-1500 (MIDDLE ENGLISH): 3enoh, 3eno3, inog, ino3, inoh, ynoh, yno3, inogh, ino3h, inohg, ynogh, enoh, eno3, enohw, enogh, ano3, i-nughe, inouh, inou3, ynou3, inough, inowgh, ynouh, ynough, anou3, anough, inou, inow, inowe, ynou, ynow, enou, enow, anow, innoh, innoghe, enewe, aye-nowe, inoht, enoght, ynought, ynoughf, etc. Plural: Ino3e, inoghe, ino3he, enoghe, inowe, ynowe, ynow, enow, innowe, ynnowe, ynewe, etc. ALSO: Enoffe (c. 1430).

1500-1600: Inough, ynough, ynoughe, ynough, ynowghe, enough, anough, enough, enow, etc.

1600-1700: Inough, enough, anough, enow, anow, anew, etc. ALSO: Enuff, enoff, enufe, inoffe, anuf, anufe, anoufe, etc.

1700-1910: Enough (why?), enow, eno', enoo, eneuch, enough. ALSO: Enuff, enuf.

Is not ENUF sufficient? Some say ENUF is a feast. Others observ it as a fast.

I writt to you by Ned Clarke that I thought I would have cause anufe in shorte tyme to put away the Monsers . . . I am resolute: it must be done and that shortlie.—1625 CHARLES I, To the Duke of Buckingham (ELLIS, *Original letters*, 1824, 3:210).

But anuf of this, I know thy affection.—1645 CHARLES I, Letter to his Wife (in *Rep. Comm. Hist. MSS.* App. 6).

I little thought before . . .  
That all the Wardrobe of rich Eloquence,  
Could have afforded half enuff,  
Of bright, of new, and lasting stuff  
To cloath the mighty Limbs of thy Gigantique  
Sence.

1656 COWLEY, *Pindarique Odes*, To Mr. Hobs, st. 5 (Works, ed. 3, 1672, [3]:27).

Aye, marry I've enuff tae greet about.—1790 MRS. WHEELER, *Westmoreland dialect, dialogue 1* (Dialogues . . . by various writers, in the *Westmoreland and Cumberland dialects*, 1839, p. 15).

## CATALOG

We lately exprest the opinion that *catalog* is coming into general use in the United States. To judge by the recent engineering and other technical journals, as well as by the advertizements in the ordinary magazines, we might say that it is alredy the prevalent spelling in the United States. To come across *catalogue* in an advertizement now gives one a certain degree of plesure—the plesure of recognizing something ancient and bygone in the midst of moderna things. It is like looking into the window of an old curiosity shop.

In "Webster's New International Dictionary," edition of 1910, the modern spelling *catalog* is recognized by the words "Also *catalog*" which follow the antiquated heding "catalogue."

## ARE YOU ALSO WITH US?

Any person is a friend of ours, and not an enemy, who says in substance: "Personally I do not like your spelling, and I do not propose to change my habits. I have learnd to spell. I don't want to bother with new forms when I am writing; but I am willing that my child and my grandchild should learn simplified spelling."—CALVIN THOMAS, Chairman of Executiv Committee, Simplified Spelling Board.

## GOOD RESOLUTIONS

The Western Drawing and Manual Training Association held its seventeenth annual meeting at Minneapolis, May 10-13, 1910. At the suggestion of the North Central Branch of the Simplified Spelling Board, the Association adopted the following:

*Whereas:* The simplification of English spelling is steadily gaining among intelligent, open-minded people, and especially appeals to all teachers, and to all who appreciate the supreme importance to our nation of removing the great obstacle that hinders the foreigners among us, children and adults, from learning to read our language, which is the first step toward intelligent and true Americanism; therefore

*Be it Resolved:* That the Western Drawing and Manual Training Association approves this movement and hereby directs its Executive Committee to use the Twelve Words adopted by the National Education Association in the correspondence and printed matter of the Association.

*Provided,* That any paper to be published by the Association may be printed in the old spelling if its author so requests in writing.

## THE 1000 MOST FREQUENT WORDS

In the selection of simplified spellings for popular use it is important to ascertain with accuracy what are the most frequent words of the English language; the hundred, or the five hundred, or the thousand words, which occur oftenest in general English speech or literature. Various persons have counted different passages from standard writers for this purpose. A larger search is needed. The task is interesting. Accurate work in any range will be useful.

A good plan is this: Select a passage of general English literature, containing not fewer than three hundred, or more than one thousand words. Copy in columns every word and form as it occurs. Then do the same for four or more different passages, from different authors. Then revise each list separately, canceling every word that occurs more than once, and adding the figure 1, each time, to the word where it first occurs. Then count the times each word occurs, as thus recorded. Then combine the lists and the numbers. Then arrange the first hundred, or the first five hundred, or the first thousand words, in the order of the number of times each occurs. Then send the lists to the Simplified Spelling Board. All the lists from all contributors will be collated and combined, and the results made known in some form.

It is well known that articles, pronouns, conjunctions and auxiliaries make up the greater part of the fifty most frequent words, and many of these are already correct and simple in spelling, for example, *in, on, from, up, and, but, so, had,* etc.

A similar compilation of the words most frequent in a particular business or science would be useful; but in every case several hundred words of general use would have to be taken into account first.

## A DICTATION EXERCISE

The teacher writes four sentences on the black-board:

Johnny went to town. He bought two apples. He ate too much.

How many . . . . did I use in those three sentences?

The question requires the pupil to put into the blank space a *syllable*, not a word, speld fonetically, with the plural *-s* or *-es*, speld fonetically or conventionally. The syllable spoken is pronounced like the plural of *two*, as in "one's and two's." How is it to be written? *Tos? to's? toes? toos? too's? tooes? twos? two's? twoes? tose? toose? toze? tooz? tooze? tus? tous? touse? tuz? touz? touze? Or with an h, as thoos? thous? thouze, etc.?*

There is no fonetic notation that would be immediately recognized by all readers of English, for the vowel sound concernd. There are several fonetic notations not generally recognized, but understandable. The one best known is one of the worst, namely, *oo*. This makes the form *too*; with the plural ending, *toos, too's, or tooes*. Other analogies suggest the other forms above given. The correct notation, according to history and according to the present usage of philologists, is *tuz*, or, with diacritic precision, *tūz* or *tūz*.

## VIGOROUS ENGLISH

But for the unfortunate readiness with which editors and publishers have yielded to the popular demand for conformity to the spelling and vocabulary of the day, the knowledge of genuine English would now be more general and further advanced than it is. The habit of reading books as they were written would have kept up the comprehension, if not the use, of good old forms and choice words, which have irrevocably perished, and the English of the most vigorous period of our literature would not now be sneered at as obsolete and unintelligible.—1860 GEORGE P. MARSH, Lectures on the English language, p. 21.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. Hudson Maxim, the well known inventor and chemist, the inventor of smokeless powder and of various kinds of explosivs, has been elected a member of the Advisory Council. His brother, Sir Hiram Maxim, is also a well known inventor, especially of explosivs, guns and other moral suasions for compelling warlike people to keep the peace. Mr. Hudson Maxim has exprest the opinion that invention is not necessarily a misdemeanor, and may justifiably be extended to the improvement of English spelling.

Professor J. I. D. Hinds, LL.D., publisht in the *Presbyterian Advance* for March 10, 1910, page 8, a very competent article on the movement for simplified spellings. He included in his examples of the variety of English spellings, such instances of eccentricity as *dding* for the sound *n* (namely, in *studding-sail*) and *renc* for the sound *s* (namely, in *Cirencester*). These are, of course, extreme cases; but the trouble is the same—the retention of old spellings for new sounds.

The use of simplified spelling is increasing among the proprietors of large clothing-houses, who add to the natural interest of their "style-books" the attraction of simplified spelling, which is also becoming "quite the fashion." The spelling, like the clothes, is made to fit by taking it in here and letting it out there.

Professor Brander Matthews lectured before the Middlesex Women's Club of Lowell, Mass., on March 28, on "English orthography: What it is and what it ought to be." He repeated this address before the teachers and students of the Stuyvesant High School in New York on May 2. Within twenty-four hours some twenty requests were receivd at the offis of the Simplified Spelling Board from students who had heard the lecture and who desired to get the printed circulars. Many similar requests came on the following days.

The H. W. Wilson Company, of Minneapolis, publish a series of 'Debaters' Handbooks' on questions of public interest, such as the commission plan of municipal government, capital punishment, initiativ and referendum, election of United States senators, income tax, and direct primaries. They have under consideration the publishing of a debaters' handbook on simplified spelling. Doutless they will be glad to hear

from persons who are interested in the matter. Send them material, points, queries, and bibliografic information.

The Columbia University Press is now publishing quarterly the *Romanic Review*, edited by Professor Henry A. Todd and Professor Raymond Weeks. The first number, that for January-March, 1910, contains this notis: "Both of the editors of this review are advocates of the movement for the simplification of English spelling. Within appropriate limits, contributors will be freely permitted to follow their individual predilections in the matter." Now let the contributors predilect.

The Vangard of experimental simplifiers, suggested in the March BULLETIN, is in process of formation. Volunteers are sending in their names; and as soon as the enrolment warrants, the organized skirmishing will begin. Those who are redy for the fray can get into practis by taking pot-shots at the enemy. There is no lack of ammunition.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church of Hetton-le-Hole, England, sends out a circular which begins "Deer Frend: There is a det of £250 on Epworth Hous." To reduce this det, the notis states, "Alredy £70 hav been promist." The notis is signd by the "society stewards," who do not believe that their reduction of the spelling will hinder their reduction of the det.

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD, 1910-1911

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## THE ATHENAEUM AND THE DODO

The London *Athenaeum* of July 9, 1910, in an otherwise sympathetic review of the brilliant career of the late Dr. Furnivall, makes this remark in regard to his adoption, as a scholar, of some simplified spellings of English: "His adoption of what he thought a simplified spelling is the result of the mysterious attraction that the apparatus of scientific method has for an unscientific mind."

This reminds us of a fable that is not found in the ordinary editions of Æsop:

### THE DODO AND THE EAGLE

A Dodo, looking aloft, saw an Eagle flying swiftly thru the Hevens. And he said: "There is a Canary attempting to fly—an other result of the mysterious Attraction that the problem of Flying has for a pedestrian Bird. Now see Me fly!" And the Dodo shut his Eyes and squatted.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING AT OXFORD

In the "Rules for Compositors and Readers at the University Press, Oxford, by Horace Hart, printer to the University" (18th ed., 1904), are many paragraphs of interest to the advocates of simplified spelling; for example:

"Some newspapers print phonetic spellings, such as program, hight (to describe altitude), catalog, &c. But the practice has insufficient authority, and can be followed only by special direction."

But many "phonetic spellings" are included in these Rules, namely in the list of preferred spellings entitled "Some Alternative or Difficult Spellings more or less in daily use" (pp. 10-16). Thus: *Ay* (always), *coco-nut*, *coeval*, *dike*, *distil*, *ecstasy*, *fantasy*, *forgo*, *instil*, *jail*, *skilful*, *wagon*, *whisky*, *wilful*, *woful*. We may expect that in a later edition of these Rules the list of simplified spellings will be increast.

It is worth noting that the two authorities chosen by the University Press to criticize the Rules (their suggestions, when they differ from those adopted, being printed at the bottom of the page), are both members of the Simplified Spelling Society, namely, Sir James A. H. Murray and Dr. Henry Bradley.

## A THOUSAND WORDS

In compliance with a request contained in the BULLETIN for June, 1910, for lists to be used in ascertaining the thousand most familiar words, Mr. Henry Drummond of Hetton-le-Hole, England, who takes delite in forcing his dear countrymen to learn a little about the English language, has sent us three lists of the words contained in extracts from three different works.

Tho many selections from many authors are required to form a sure basis for a list of the most familiar words of the English language, it may be of interest to note that in these three selections the three most familiar words, with the number of their occurences, are *the*, 189; *of*, 149; and *and*, 90. This shows that if *the* and *of*, which are now inaccurate spellings, should be alterd, the alteration would occur with great frequency. The great frequency would increase the opposition to any change; but the same fact would make it easier to become familiar with the change if it should be begun.

Many of the other most familiar words are already speld with sufficient accuracy — *and*, *in*, etc.

We shall be glad to receive similar lists of words from other contributors.

## AGONY OF OUR OPPONENTS

One of the greatest pains to human nature is the pain of a new idea. — 1869 BAGEHOT, *Physics and Politics*, p. 163.

## IMPRESSIV SILENCE

Our circular No. 24, "Simplified Spelling: A Letter to Teachers," which presents its subject in a way intended to meet the needs of teachers who wish to consider or to use the simplified forms, has been circulated in more than one hundred thousand copies. It has brought to the cause the support of a great number of new adherents among teachers. A great many have signed the card, many have written to express their further interest, and many have answered the three "Questions to Teachers" which accompanied the circular.

So far as we know, not one teacher, not one principal, not one superintendent, not one school trustee, not one school journal, has taken in public an attitude adverse to the simplified spelling, in connection with this circular, or has attempted in any way to reply to its arguments and its proposals.

## TROUGH, TROF, TROTH

A member of the Advisory Council who is familiar with the learned tungs, from India and Greece to Boston, writes (and spells) as follows concerning the happy days of his youth:

"It came to me as a distinct shock to discover that the trough into which in my youth I had pumpt so many gallons, yea hogsheds, of water for the paternal bovines and equines, was in fact a trof and not a troth. You see I came to know the article aforesaid from blisterd hands rather than from a dictionary; and now when it delites me to look back on those things, what will become of this most vivid association of my youth if the word itself is thus by a magic spell to be nockt out of existence! But I lern that some of my colleags who never experienst any juvenil pump-handle agitations are agreed in pronounsing the word as trof; so "trof" it is and (alas!) shall be hereafter."

It is trof. We pumpt into a trof.

## LAW AND ORTHOGRAFY

The law is not particular as to orthography; in fact it distinctly refuses to recognize the existence of that delightful science. You may bring your action against Mr. Jacob Phillips under the fanciful designation of Jaycobb Fillipse, if you like, and the law won't care, because the law goes by ear; and although in some cases it insists upon having everything written, things written are only supposed in law to have any meaning when read, which is, after all, a common sense rule enough. So, instead of "I owe you," persons of a cheerful disposition so frequently found connected with debt, used to write facetiously "I. O. U.," and the law approved of their so doing. — 1880 "The Legal Contributor" in BEETON, *Book of Household Management*, p. 1134.

Notis the curteous admission, by this legal gentleman, that a common-sense rule may sometimes prevail even in law. A more fervid lawyer, on one occasion, startled the bench and bar by exclaiming "Nothing is Law that is not Reason."

## REPORT ON A "KEY ALFABET"

At the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Education Association, Boston, July 7, 1910, the "Committee on a Universal System of Key Notation for indicating Pronunciation, appointed by the Department of Superintendence seven years ago, and which has kept at its problem persistently," presented an additional Report; and the Secretary of the Association was instructed to have it printed and sent to the activ members, "so as to give them an opportunity to study it and be able to discuss it effectively when this important matter comes up for consideration in regular order" at the next meeting (February, 1911) of the Department of Superintendence.

The Report includes "the alfabet, so far as that alfabet went, recommended by the American Philological Association in 1877," with some "concessions" as to digrafts, and as to types for the vowel in *ask*, and for the unstrest vowels in *about*, *over*, *candid* and *added*. The Report adds that this key is substantially the one contained in the Report of a Joint Committee of the National Education Association, the Modern Language Association, and the American Philological Association, printed in 1904 and distributed to the members of the Department of Superintendence of the N. E. A. at the Milwaukee meeting in 1905.

## OVERDOING IT

"Dolan," said he, "what does them letters, 'MDCCCXCVII,' mean?"

"They mean eighteen hundred and ninety-seven."

"Dolan," came the query, after a thoughtful pause, "don't yez think they're overdoin' this spellin' reform a bit?" — *Exchange*.

## A CIVILIZING MOVEMENT

Whatever can be rationally done to simplify the spelling of our language should be done, not only for the sake of the English-speaking race, but also for that of the English-learning races. It will make the advance of civilization easier. — 1895 CHARLES ELIOT NORTON, Letter, July 1, to R. M. PIRACON, Secretary of the Orthographic Union.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

The University of Illinois uses the simplified spelling *thru* in an advertisement of its College of Dentistry; but it asks the reader to write for a *catalogue*. Why not be thoro and extract also the needless *ue*?

In one day the Simplified Spelling Board receivd 72 cards signd by teachers attending the summer session of the Illinois State Normal University. This was in addition to many cards receivd from the same institution on other days. Only a few days later, Dr. David Felmley, President of the University, sent in a batch of 30 more cards, most of them signd by teachers in the public schools of Illinois. Every one of these teachers is thus likely to become a center of orthografic knowledge and information. One card approving the principle and practis of simplified spelling, signd by a teacher, takes away more support from the conventional spelling than is afforded by a dozen uninformed persons who stick to the old way merely because they have not yet opend their minds to the new idea.

The summer number of the *Crucible*, the organ of the State Normal School at Greeley, Colorado, includes histories, essays and poems by members of the recent graduating class, and by the editors, and a lively set of other items, all glittering with simplified spelling of the modern age.

Dr. Clarence L. Meader, Professor of Sanskrit and Comparativ Philology in the University of Michigan, deliverd a lecture on simplified spelling before the Summer School of the University of Michigan in July. As a result, we have receivd twenty-one cards signd by teachers and others attending the school. There is a brief report of the lecture in the students' organ, *Wolverine*, July 6, 1910. One of the hed-lines reads, "No Arguments for Old Style." The report bristles with modernized spellings.

The University of Michigan is a hot-bed of spelling, simplified and garish. The *Wolverine*, the students' paper, publishes a list of "errors" in spelling, taken from examination papers of students in the engineering courses. Dr. Kenyon of the University classifies these errors in a scientific manner. Some of the errors are the necessary product of pure reason applied to the subject, and are superior to the 'correct' forms. Such are: *Gard*, *ment*, *passiv*, *reflexiv*, *solem*, *surplis*. Other forms differ from the 'correct'

only in the introduction of one uncertain vowel in place of an other uncertain vowel, as in *posative* and *splender*. One student ingeniously expresses *disgussed* at having the subject *discussed*, by spelling the first word like the second, no dout to the infinit delite of his professor, but to the "disgussed" of those persons to whom all errors that survived the 18th century are for ever sacred.

## EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE IN LONDON

The British Government has arranged for a Conference of the heds of education departments of the British Empire in London next Spring. Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, the Superintendent of Education of Nova Scotia, will attend as the representativ of that Province. Among the topics to be discust by the Conference is one that Dr. MacKay has suggested: "The Consideration of the Attitude which Departments of Education thruout the Empire should take with reference to the Simplification and Improvement of English Spelling."

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain will cooperate in the attempt to bring the subject fully to the attention of the delegates at the Conference.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLERS ELECTED AT N. E. A.

Of the eleven persons elected as Vice-Presidents of the National Education Association at its recent meeting in Boston (July 4-8) one (Dr. Seerley) is a member of the Simplified Spelling Board; two (Miss Julia Richman and Mr. F. L. Cook) are members of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board; and and three others (Messrs. McFarland, Avery, and Duniway) are Signers of the promis to use the Simplified Spellings recommended by the Board.

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, who was elected President of the Association, and the opposing candidate, Mr. Z. X. Snyder, President of the Colorado State Normal School, are also favorable to simplified spelling. Some of the State Directors chosen are Signers.

## THE TRIUMF OF THE SATISFIED

Yet the unfortunate children hav to memorise all these useless examples, and hav little mercy to hope for from the self-satisfied people who hav previously accomplisht a petty triumf over them.—1909 PROFESSOR SKEAT, *How to employ the symbol EA*, p. 7 (S. S. S. Pamflet 5, March, 1909).

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

Issued quarterly by the Simplified Spelling Board, at No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, N. Y.

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Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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## SERENE AMID ALARMS

Certain mildly critical friends are following the work of the Simplified Spelling Board with a good deal of sympathy, yet with a good deal of apprehension; feeling sure that even the mildest of any new proposals will, if made widely known, dismay the literary and scholarly world. These doubting friends may be relieved to know that all the proposals for additional simplifications that have come before the members of the Board and the Advisory Council for consideration have been received without alarm and considered without agitation. All is regarded as matter for gentle consideration; and no member has expressed a fear of any disastrous decision. Let us possess our souls in patience and take our reforms with a serene mind. Sufficient unto the day is the reform thereof.

## THEIR PENURY OF WIT

A correspondent asks why it is that the attacks made upon simplified spelling or upon its supporters are so devoid of wit and humor. He thinks this the more remarkable, because nearly all the criticisms of simplified spelling are ostensibly humorous or satirical. But he finds no real fun, no vivacity, no sparkle of wit, no genial air of humor in them.

The subject invites these qualities, but they are found only on the affirmative side. The writings of March, of Whitney, of Furnivall, of Skeat, of Lounsbury, and other champions of simplification, abound in wit and humor, which the initiates at least can fully appreciate.

It is a curious question. The fact can not be disputed. The reason, we think, is this: Wit requires intellect—understanding, alertness of mind, arising from clear and immediate perception of facts, and of various facts, not merely those which every one sees before him. Humor

implies a tolerance of mind, a sense of human limitations, an absence of conceit, a kindly, genial atmosphere, in which understanding and good nature unite to keep the mind level and democratic, but undeluded. Persons who commit themselves to the wholly unintellectual idea that a common human invention and custom like English spelling, can not be, and ought not to be, improved in any way, are by the very conditions of their existence deprived of wit and humor.

It is of course quite possible to use wit and humor in criticizing the proposals of spelling reformers. Some of their proposals are ridiculous enough; and even when their proposals are wise and their ideas sound, the subject admits of considerable gaiety in the opposition. But the adverse wits must know *something* about the subject; the jibing humorists must at least tolerate the idea as a human and even amiable weakness. They must play the game of wit according to the rules of the game—and they don't know the rules.

## GLORIOUS SUMMER

The Iowa State Teachers College is one of the largest schools for the training of teachers in the United States, or indeed in the world. It is open in every season of the year. It has more than two thousand students, more than seventy professors and instructors. It has many departments, and offers many courses. One may learn there something about everything. The grounds are extensive, the buildings many, spacious, pleasing, adequate. The officers and trustees are men of prominence and ability, leaders in that leading State.

And yet these professors, instructors, officers, trustees, students, advocate, allow, use, such spellings as *practis, instructiv, inclusiv, narrativ, dropt, equipt, offerd, followd, pland, welth, hed, tho, thru*. In the Bulletin giving the courses for the Summer Term of 1910 twelve professors are entered each as "hed of the department" in which he works, and one lady is described as "hed critic" in the department of training in teaching. Can such things be, and overcome us in the Summer Term, without our special wonder? Can it be that these teachers use their *heds*—learn with their *heds*, criticize with their *heds*? What will become of a college where the teachers use their *heds* even in spelling?

We are sure that this college does not begin to compare with the Universities of Babylon

or Thebes or any other ancient institution in the matter of English spelling. The idea of using modern spelling in the twentieth century! It is four centuries too early. There is good authority for the belief that spelling ought to be four centuries old, at least, before it is used at all.

### BIRD-LORE AND WORD-LORE

With reference to the action of the editors of *The Condor* in adopting the modernized spelling of certain words (to which reference is made in this BULLETIN), a contributor in *Bird-Lore* for May-June, 1910 (vol. 12, page 120), makes an objection that has some apparent weight. He cites the fact that *The Condor* spells the English names of certain birds in the modernized form, namely, the "Black-Capt Vireo," the "Ring-Neckt Duck," and so forth, and he treats these spellings as if they were a change in the names.

The objection is not scientific. A change of spelling is not a change of name or a change of nomenclature.

The scientific way, of course, is to distinguish between spelling and nomenclature, and to admit any reasonable improvements in spelling as well as any reasonable improvements in nomenclature.

We venture to say that no ornithologists, even those of the medieval school, will fail to recognize the "Black-Capt Vireo" and the "Ring-Neckt Duck" under these spellings.

### PHILIPPINES AND FILIPINOS

The Hon. Charles S. Lobingier, Judge of the Court of First Instance, Manila, Philippine Islands, cald at the offis of the Simplified Spelling Board in New York on his way to Europe. He expects to return to Manila this month (September) and promises to do what he can to promote the use of simplified spelling in those islands.

Many officials and teachers in the Philippine Islands alre dy use the simplified forms, and not a few of the nativ teachers and pupils in the schools have signd the card agreeing to use the simpler spellings. The teachers and students, American and Filipino, who come into contact with the admirable spelling of the Spanish language, are not only vext by the inferiority of the English in this respect, but are put to a positiv disadvantage, the teachers in imparting a knowledge of English, and the pupils in acquiring it. Even the Moros look morose.

A civilization that must be introduced by means of the English language in the conven-

tional spelling is a civilization at which even a savage might well look askance. "Is that the best you can do?" asks the savage. And the savages at home who offer this civilization in the conventional spelling and are trying to prevent us from offering an improved form, must admit that if it is not the best they can do, it is the best that they are willing to give.

### A "REBUQUE"

The *Chicago Tribune* of July 11, 1910, makes the chancellor of a noted university come in for a "rebuque" at the hands of a critic of American colleges. Years ago the *Tribune* gaine d some literary fame and standing under the control of Joseph Medill, an enlightend reformer, who advocated simplified spelling, and used in that paper many simplified forms. But since the paper has come into other hands, who know not Joseph, it has ceast to inform itself about English spelling; and so neither the writer nor the proof-reader notist the deviation of "rebuque" from the orthodox spelling. Perhaps they took it for granted that the graceful *-que*, being evidently French, containd the whole "etymology" of the word, and that the spelling was therefore *recherché* and *ravissant* and altogether *chic*.

### TEACHERS TAKE TO IT

A lady who has been doing some good work for the cause of simplified spelling as a teacher in Arkansas has been lecturing upon the subject before a teachers' institute in Miami county, Ohio. She reports that nearly all the teachers were favorable. She sent proof of the fact in 65 cards signd by 65 teachers, signifying their approval of the principle and practis of simplified spelling. Other teachers took the cards and circulars with the intent to secure other names before sending in their own.

The lecturer writes: "They were delighted with the idea, and dozens promist me personally to begin the first day of school by teaching one of the simple forms, and continue the work five minutes a day until the close of the school year."

There was no criticism of the idea, no opposition to the movement, no hint of any official restriction. The teachers simply approved the idea and promist to put it into practis. Of course they will use their discretion in the amount of simplifications used, and in the manner in which they shall be introduced.

## WILLIAM JAMES

An other eminent member of the Simplified Spelling Board has ended his career. Professor William James of Harvard University died at Chocorua, New Hampshire, August 26, 1910.

This distinguisht philosopher, who carried the methods of science into the thin air of metaphysics, and up to the walls of the invisible world, did not regard any subject of human thought or effort as exempt from scientific inquiry. He therefore joind the scholars who have been for years demanding the regulation of English spelling, and he practist the art of simplified spelling in his private letters with humorous audacity. Professor James took a continual interest in the movement; and the withdrawal of so much energy and spirit is much to be deplored.

## F, V, P, B, M

Mr. William Hudson Hurst of Chicago has just publisht a book, "Silagrafy: A New System ov Short-Hand," for which he claims the merits both of greater accuracy and of greater brevity as compared with the other systems, like Pitman's, based upon the systematic use of the simplest geometric forms.

In this book he uses the same simplified spelling which he employd in his pamphlet entitled "Simplified Spelling," which he recently sent to the members of the Simplified Spelling Board and Advisory Council. In that pamphlet he "advocates a fonetic spelling with one or more letters at a time, and recommends that the five letters and sounds of F, V, P, B, M, be selected first, as they are the most nearly fonetic in the present orthograpy."

This is a neat form of gradual simplification and is worthy of the attention of those persons who wish to introduce simplified spelling in a gradual but systematic way. The principle is that every sound in the ordinary spelling which can be exprest by F, V, P, B, M, is so exprest, all other notations of the same sound being discarded. The author also includes a few other simplifications: "The remainder ov the spelling is orthodox with an occasional exception where the accepted form is outrageously bad."

The most conspicuous change made by this principle is the spelling of *of* as *ov*, thus: "This will be *ov* use to the student in indicating the true fonetic forms ov a number ov words which are more or less obscured by the orthodox spell-

ing." The number of words altered by applying this principle is comparatively few. Beside *ov*, they include *alfabet*, *fonetic*, *frases*, etc.

## SKIRMISHING IN WESTCHESTER

The *North Westchester Times*, publisht at Katonah, New York, began in July to use simplified spellings in its colums. The first reader to object did the thing that is usually done by those who rush in where better informd persons fear to tred — he invented some queer spellings which he cald "fonetic," ascribed them to the Simplified Spelling Board, and poud out all his erudition in a reference to "Josh Billings."

Mr. Frank Hunter Potter and Mr. John Corbin took up the cudgels in defense of simplified spelling. Mr. Potter wrote:

"Your correspondent objects to the unesthetic appearance of reformed spelling. He forgets how large a part familiarity plays in our conception of beauty. There is a savage tribe in the South Seas somewhere who delight to insert into the lower lips of the women a large disc which causes the lips to protrude in front an inch or so; and the further it sticks out the greater the beauty. So the opponent of spelling reform loves to keep his words full of useless and misleading letters, and the weirder they are, and the farther they lead the stranger astray, the more beautiful they seem and the dearer they are to his heart."

## EXPENSIV

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, Superintendent of Chicago Public Schools, and President of the National Education Association, says, according to the *School Journal* for March, 1910, p. 275, that the ideal teacher has the following attributes: "Patience, philosophy, humor, good luck, steadfastness, health, persistence, clear-headedness, sympathy, diplomacy, persuasiveness, positiveness, gentleness, open-mindedness, force, enthusiasm, pointedness, clairvoyance, independence, friendliness, and charm."

And an average daily wage of \$1.69. Twenty-one fine qualities for 8 cents apiece!

## THE FLIGHT OF THE CONDOR

*The Condor*, "an illustrated magazine of western ornithology, publisht bi-monthly by the Cooper Ornithological Club of California" (Hollywood, California), has come out in favor of simplified spelling, "falling in line," as it says, "with a widespred movement which is essentially progressiv, and which is rapidly gaining ground because of its obvious merits." It is using many simplified forms in its colums; for example: *altho*, *markt*, *bleacht*, *reacht*, *mizt*, *soakt*,

*crost, promist, notist, geografigal, monograp, fesant, campain, bilding, gard.*

The Editor of *The Condor* is Professor Joseph Grinnell, of the University of California. More than seventy of the professors and officers of this university are Signers for simplified spelling. Scholars and men of science approve the simplification of English spelling, as they approve all other advances of knowledge and applications of reason for the welfare of mankind.

### DRY BONES

For the assistance of writers against the movement for simplified spelling we have prepared a skeleton which we find will fit nearly all the adverse articles we have seen. All that is necessary is that the article shall contain the following words in some order, no matter what, fild in with other words, no matter what. By faithfully following these directions, any person can produce as good an article against the simplification of spelling as has yet been written by any public opponent of the idea:

"Deformed spelling . . . Josh Billings . . . illiterate spelling . . . fads . . . simple spellers . . . self-appointed board . . . destroy the etymology . . . spelling of Shakespeare and Milton . . . a few cranks . . . radical changes . . . all at once . . . will come gradually." And so on—tumtytum—fol de rol—*da capo*.

The effect will be tremendously increast if some words are inclosed in quotation marks, thus: "simplified" spelling; self-appointed "board."

### PROTECTING HIS HOME

A gentleman in California, having sent a subscription to a well-known literary periodical, happend to see a copy of the magazine containing a few simplified spellings; whereupon he immediately wrote to the publisher: "I found that you use a system of spelling to which I object and would not wish to introduce into my house—much less send out to the British possessions, where they understand and use good English." He canceld his subscription, closed the shutters of his house, planted toy dogs at all the avenues of entrance, and is now devoting himself entirely to preventing the introduction of simplified spelling into his home. He has also sent an apology to the governors of the British possessions, where they understand and use good English, for the audacity of the Americans in sending simplified spelling into those sacred territories.

### FREDERICK J. FURNIVALL

In the last number of the BULLETIN we named the distinguisht scholars who had been elected Vice-Presidents of the Simplified Spelling Board, among them Dr. Frederick J. Furnivall. Dr. Furnivall accepted the election in a cordial letter. We regret to record now the close of his labors. Dr. Furnivall died on Saturday, July 2, 1910, after a life not only full of years (he had past fourscore and five) but of achievements and of honors.

Dr. Furnivall's achievements in the promotion of a knowledge of the English language and of English literature were indeed extraordinary. With the aid of two or three colleags whom he had inspired with zeal almost equal to his own, he raised out of long oblivion a great mass of the older English literature, and the records of the English language for many centuries. He was the founder and director of the Early English Text Society, of the Chaucer Society, of the New Shakspeare Society, of the Ballad Society; nor did he stop there.

What had been done before in historical work of this kind, Dr. Furnivall surpast not merely in amount but in accuracy. What he reported of the history of bygone times was true to jot and tittle. He knew that the only right way to reproduce bygone literature and bygone records is to reproduce them accurately, making no changes in wording or in grammar or in spelling. He had a fine scorn for those literary men whose notion of editing the works of bygone worthies is to change them to a form that pleases the esthetic sense or orthodox indolence of the modern editor.

Thruout Dr. Furnivall's illustrious career as a scholar and as a restorer of old learning, he had very definit ideas of the nature of English spelling, and refused to be bound by the pitiful orthodoxies of incompetent critics and compilers. The result was that some orthodox critics would refer at times to his "eccentric spelling." To see Dr. Furnivall's smile when he red such criticisms, or when they were reported to him, was worth a voyage across the Atlantic.

Dr. Furnivall was a true democrat and philanthropist. He raised great sums of money for the betterment of the condition of the poor; he establisht and carried on enterprizes for the education of working men and working women; and he employd his last days in making sure that his work would be continued. He was indeed a great and a good and a brave man.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

The *Caledonian* for August reprints a long article from *Christian Work* in favor of simplified spelling, to which it prefixes an editorial statement in sympathy with the movement.

The proposal for the formation of the Simplified Spelling Alliance is still before our friends, and we receive frequent expressions of approval. We request those who desire to join and who have not yet sent in their names, to do so soon.

The proposal to gather into a compact and active body those friends of simplified spelling who wish to go somewhat ahead of the main army, as a Vanguard, has also been received with considerable approval, and we are recording the names of those who wish to join. In due time we may issue a special circular to those persons and issue such lists and other information as will enable them to skirmish with effect in the actual presence of the enemy.

"The Science-History of the Universe," ten volumes, The Current Literature Publishing Co., New York, 1909, spells *tho*, *thoro*, *thru*, *altho*.

A good many of our friends seem to wish that the Board would publish a new circular every two or three weeks. Many call for monthly issues of the BULLETIN. We should like to do these things, but they can not be done at present. The BULLETIN, even as a quarterly, is practically gratuitous, and it must remain secondary to the printing of our regular circulars of information and argument and their free distribution to the thousands of Signers and the larger public—a work which is ever expanding.

The Chicago Wireless Supply Co. spells *Telegraf* with the *f*, in all its catalogs and advertisements.

The Sterling Electric Company of Lafayette, Indiana, uses in its circulars such simplified spellings as *tho*, *thoroly*, *thruout*, *equipt*. They have found that electricity is just as sure and swift, and the business is just as prosperous, after a mild reign of simplified spelling, as it was before.

Five persons have thus far accepted the suggestion made in BULLETIN No. 3 (December, 1909) and BULLETIN No. 4 (March, 1910), under the title of *Reformers with Plans*, and have availed themselves of the offer there made to

send their proposals to the members of the Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council, if a sufficient number of printed copies of their suggestions were supplied for the purpose. These persons are, C. L. Annan, of St. Paul, Minn.; William H. Hurst, of Chicago, Ill.; John L. Jackson, of Fort Worth, Tex.; Rudolf Stehle, New York, N. Y., and E. Whitney, of Weehawken, N. J.

Mr. Hudson Maxim in his new book, "The Science of Poetry and the Philosophy of Language," just published by Funk & Wagnalls Company, uses several simplified forms.

## FROM MAINE TO OREGON

Professor William T. Foster of Bowdoin College has been selected as the president of a new college to be called Reed College, and to be established at Portland, Oregon. It is to be formed upon lines in accord with the most modern spirit of the science of teaching. Professor Foster starts with a free hand and the control of a fund which is reported to be more than three million dollars.

Professor Foster is a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, and the Chairman of the Maine Center. He is as zealous for the simplification and regulation of English spelling as he is for the scientific treatment of the other problems of education. In moving from the Eastern to the Western side of the continent he will no doubt carry all his scientific baggage with him.

## "NEVER TO OLD"

A correspondent in New Jersey contributes the following anecdote from her personal experience as a school teacher:

"A bright boy who had just been promoted to the seventh-year class in a New Jersey school, was asked by an eighth-year boy to write something in the book in which, at parting, schoolmates and teachers were inscribing for him words of advice, warning, appreciation, sympathy, congratulation, or condolence, as to each seemed most fitting. Both boys had incurred difficulties, many and great, in 'learning to spell.' Walter carefully wrote for William's edification:

"'We are never to old to learn to spell.'

"Then he wondered why we all laughed when we looked at what he had written."

File

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## SIMPLICITAS BRITANNICA

The new—eleventh—edition of the “Encyclopaedia Britannica” shows a stedy advance in orthografic simplicity over its predecessors. *Encyclopaedia* is better than *encyclopsedia*; and it is hard to see why *encyclopedia* was not used, since we find in its pages *medieval* and not *mediaeval*. We note also *gild* (and not *guild*), *gipsy* (and not *gypsy*), and *tiro* (and not *tyro*).

## AN OTHER ‘REDOUBT’ TAKEN

When the Fort Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution undertook to place in Washington Park, in the neighborhood of 181st street, a monumental boulder taken from the glacial drift in the park, this inscription was proposed:

AMERICAN REDOVBT  
OF 1776

The inscription came before the Municipal Art Commission; and the Art Commission did a wonderful thing. It directed that modern lettering be substituted for the archaic capital lettering, that is, it substituted the round U for the angular U (V) which we now call *vee*; and also directed that the word “redoubt” be speld correctly “redout.” And if there were any Daughters whose harts were set upon the archaic V and also upon the picturesque and erroneous B, those Daughters’ harts withoutb doubt must have been broken aboutb the redoubt.

When the sculptor who was to cut the inscription was askt if he objected to the change made by the Art Commission, he said that he could cut one form of letter just as well as an other, and was quite willing to do so; and he added: “I do not believe those back of the plans will object to the change in the spelling.”

The memorial was unveild November 16 with appropriate exercizes and no tears. The main part of the inscription reads:

AMERICAN REDOUT  
1776

## NEWS FROM AFRICA

The New York *Sun* commented upon the fact that in a letter of President Taft, transmitting to Congress a certain report, he speld the name of a much-mentiond region in Africa “Kongo” in sted of “Congo.” The *Sun*, which is as erudite as it is candid, took this to be a recent simplified spelling.

If the *Sun* would apply to sources of information, it would learn that the spelling “Kongo” is included among the recommendations of the United States Board on Geographic Names, a body which was quietly appointed by President Harrison to consider the application and spelling of geografic names. This Board has been continued to the present time, and has considerd and settled the application and spelling of many thousand names of places in and out of the United States. The work has been done by more or less competent persons connected with the scientific departments of the Government, with no important protest against the Board or its decisions, from the newspaper editors or any body else. The Board on Geographic Names may some day apply its principles to the spelling of common words.

## TIME NO REFORMER

“And he that will not apply New Remedies, must expect New Euils: For Time is the greatest Innouatour: And if Time, of course, alter Things to the worse, and Wisdome and Counsell shall not alter them to the better, what shall be the End?”—1625 BACON, Of Innovations (*Harmony of the Essays*, 1871, p. 526).

## IT TAKES 'OFFENCE'

The London *Athenæum*, referring to a work on Greek literature by an American woman, a professor in one of the women's colleges, finds her work quite tolerable in some respects, but it feels obliged to rebuke her for her spelling. It cites a passage containing the word *offense* and prints the word thus: "offense (*sic*)."

We hope that the *Athenæum* will be consistent, and, when it quotes the French original of this English word, will do so thus, "offense (*sic*)"; and if opportunity arises to quote the remoter Latin original, will print it "offensa (*sic*). The fine old Tory charm is lost unless you are *always* wrong, and show that you mean it.

## ON THE STAGE

Francis Wilson, the actor and playwright, is also a simplified speller. In his play "A Bachelor's Baby" he puts in a good word for the cause. As the perturbed hero of the drama, he returns home after an absence and finds an accumulation of mail matter awaiting him. He runs thru it hastily, glancing only at the envelopes, and hurling each communication unopened into the waste-paper basket with some lively comment. Reading the imprint on one envelop, he exclaims: "Simplified spelling! Simple? I'll bet it's crazy!" Then he pauses. "May be that's because I haven't examind it. I will." And he replaces it on the table.

Thus he happily combines instruction with entertainment, and literally makes the stage a means of education, sending his unsuspecting hearers home both delighted and enlightened.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

"Nev-a-hone" is the name given to a new device to keep razors so sharp that they need never be honed. The spelling adopted registers a common, tho not approved, pronunciation of the word *never*. It attracts attention because people are still ready to be surprised, or indignant, at the sight of a word spelled as they actually pronounce it.

The manufacturers of "Regal" shoes advertise a new shape "with the high nob toe now so fashionable." Here the advertiser does not know that the fashionable spelling is *knob*. Perhaps he was thinking of *nobby*, which itself should be *knobby* in the orthodox spelling.

"Hedake" appears in advertisements of an alleged remedy for that ailment. It is sold by a manufacturer who knows that he has found one sure way to reduce *headache*.

"Solidhed" is the name stamped on a form of combined punch and riveter for fastening together sheets of paper. The hed of the inventor was not too solid to admit the light of the improved orthography.

The "Breathe-Rite Brace" is a device for straightening the back, throwing out the chest and inducing the habit of right breathing. Perhaps it may also induce some of its wearers to take a brace and to spell rite as well as to "breathe rite."

## FOLLOW THE STANDARED

On a large sign-board erected just below the Washington Bridge, New York, there appeared, some time ago, this sign, referring to a fatal 'remedy' for rats and bugs:

SURE POP

50 YEARS THE STANDARED

Some one wondered why *standard* should be spelled *standared*; and soon afterwards the haggard painter reappeared and simplified the *-ared* to *-ard*.

But why not simplify the ending of *beggared*, *calendared*, *collared*, also to *-ard*? If you have a standard, or 'standared,' why not follow it?

## THE THRU LINE

Conservative travellers (those who travel with two *l's*) as well as conservative shippers of freight (to whom *freit* would be *friteful*) are encountering new woes in the progressive West. They have to travel on "THRU Lines" and to send their goods by "THRU Freight Lines." The latest "THRU Line" is that of the North Pacific Steamship Company, whose steamships ply between Portland and Los Angeles. All its passengers must go THRU, even if they can't stand THRU.

## HICK LABOUR HOCK OPOUS EST

We offer this noble Latin motto, free, to all opponents of simplified spelling, and all friends of the laboured spelling 'labour.' It describes our work in trying to reach their minds. We can assure them that the Latin spelling is in exact accord with their own.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Every winter the French authorities delegate a distinguisht teacher to serv for a term at Columbia University. In 1911 the French representativ will be Ferdinand Brunot, the Professor of the History of the French Language at the University of Paris. M. Brunot has recently publisht a very interesting little book on the teaching of French in the elementary schools of France. He takes occasion (pp. 26-37) to dwell on the necessity for a progressiv simplification of the customary orthograpy. And yet the spelling of French is not as complicated or as chaotic as the spelling of English.

The Huntwell Publishing Co., Des Moines, Iowa, is issuing a revision of a work on orthograpy for teachers and schools. At the instance of Dr. Homer H. Seerley it has agreed to introduce into this work all the rules alredy adopted by the Simplified Spelling Board for regulating orthograpy. It accepts entire the words and lists that have been publisht by the Board, as being in the line of improvement. It will also publish the new 'Proposed N. E. A. Alphabet.'

Miss Gertrude O. Hunnicutt, 1st vice-president of the National Commercial Teachers' Federation, and chairman of its Committee on Simplified Spelling, has recently been elected to membership in the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board. She was nominated for membership by the National Commercial Teachers' Federation, in accordance with the invitation extended by the Board (in Circular No. 17, 4th ed., p. 2) to "educational and scientific societies in any state" to propose persons to represent them in the Council. Miss Hunnicutt is also a local agent of the Board. She has done valuable servis to the cause of Simplified Spelling by bringing it to the attention of the National Commercial Teachers' Federation, the National Shorthand Teachers' Association, and other societies of which she is a member. Her address is Evansville, Ind.

Conventions of teachers at Red Deer (Oct. 7, 1910), at Stettler, and at Olds, in the Province of Alberta, have past resolutions mentioning the purpose of the "Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, and the Simplified Spelling Board of the United States," and requesting the Minister of Education of Alberta to "appoint a select committee to inquire into, and to report upon, the matter of simplification of English spelling." The provinces of Nova Scotia, On-

tario and Alberta are fortunate in having so many progressiv teachers. But there are some provinces of the United States that are equally progressiv; and the rest, from their point of vantage in the rear, will not refuse to admire a courage which they do not yet possess.

Dr. Homer H. Seerley gave an address on "Simpler Spelling" before the Western Commercial School Teachers in convention at Topeka, Kansas, on November 25. Dr. Seerley writes: "I found these teachers all 'insurgents' and redy for 'progressiv' spelling." Thirty-nine teachers signd the card agreeing to use the simpler spellings that have been recommended by the Board.

The *Columbia* (S. C.) *State*, of Oct. 8, 1910, takes notis of a proposed "Revival of Spelling." "The movement seems to have started at Rolla, Rolette county, North Dakota, and thence it is confidently expected to sweep the country 'from the Atlantic to the Pacific.' It is called by its originator or initiator . . . a 'Revival of Spelling.' We do not like the word 'revival' used in this way. . . . We had supposed that about the deadeast thing in the world is our so-called 'spelling.' We do not spell; we merely copy our words from ancient forms from which the living tongue has long since departed. And what we want is some power to deliver us from the body of this death."

## PROGRESS IN GREEK GRAMMAR

In the first American edition of the "Westminster Greek Grammar" (New York, 1801), the first two pages after the preface are given up to "Literarum Nexus et Abbreviationes"; meaning the ligatures and distortions of letters that were found in late medieval Greek manuscripts, and were imitated in early printed editions of Greek works. These distortions were given in the Greek grammars used in English schools. They were labeld in Latin, and all the rest of the book was in Latin. In time these ligatures were reduced in number and labeld in English; and the rest of the grammar was written in English—a kind of English. Now, ligatures have been abolisht. The boys don't want them; don't need them; don't learn them; and ought not to be expected to learn them.

Here is a spelling reform that has been carried on before the eyes of the last three generations—common sense intruding into Greek grammar. When shall we allow common sense to intrude into English orthograpy?

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## FIRST AID TO THE ENEMY

Notwithstanding our request, twice printed in the BULLETIN, for copies of articles that have been printed against the movement for the simplification of English spelling, it has not been responded to by our opponents. As we said in the June BULLETIN (No. 2, p. 7), "It is particularly desired to have references to articles of some apparent weight and substance, in which the reform is opposed, but in which the subject is discussed with some knowledge, and in the style and manner customary among scholars."

We fear that these two restrictions have proved onerous to our opponents. They seem to feel hampered. We have now decided to remove the restrictions; and the opportunity is open for the submission of opposing articles written *without* any knowledge, and in any style that reflects the mind of the writers.

## RULES OF ENGLISH SPELLING

There are strings of words called "rules of spelling." Who wrote these rules? Who found them to be rules? When were they first printed? Who examined them to see whether they are correct? Who revised them to make them more correct? What scholars have examined them, and pronounced them correct? Where do they appear now in a correct form? If you had to exhibit the rules of English spelling in print, to what book would you turn? Who wrote that book? When was it printed? How old are the stereotype plates? Are you satisfied, as a student of English, as a teacher of facts, as an advocate of reason, with those rules, as thus printed? Can you not conceive of a better statement of them? If so, would you have that better statement made by persons who do not know the English language scientifically or by persons who do know the English language scientifically? When you wish to find persons

who know the English language in a scientific way, will you go to persons who oppose the regulation of English spelling, or to persons who favor the regulation of English spelling?

When you have answered these questions to your own inward intellectual satisfaction, write down the names of the most eminent persons whom you know to be opposed to the regulation of English spelling. And then, say, if you can, "I will follow these eminent persons, for the reason"—what reason? Can you give any?

Find, if you can, the rules for spelling the Latin language; the Greek language; the Italian language; the Spanish language; the German language. Find the spelling-books used in these languages, and compare them with the English spelling-books.

## 'HALTING' FORWARD

Some friends of simplified spelling find food for criticism in what they term the "halting" policy of the Board. They hold that no word should be simplified until it can be simplified in all its parts. This sounds plausible; but if rigidly followed, it would block nearly all simplification. The persons who would enforce this rule are in fact, altho they may not know it, demanding an immediate and consistent fonetic spelling of every word, and therefore they are demanding, altho they may not know it, a complete and consistent fonetic alphabet,—an alphabet which they are often not only unprepared to present, but are unprepared to receive.

One of the commonest criticisms is that the Board spells certain words containing *ph* with an *f*, as *fonetic*, *telegraf*, *telefone*, etc., and in other words containing *ph* retains that old notation. The reasons of this are given in Circular No. 18 (Jan. 30, 1908), page 5, paragraph 4. To have made a rule to change *ph* to *f* universally would have made it necessary to print a list of all the words affected. This list would be very long, and would contain a great many words that are only bookish and not familiar to the average reader, and that often involve other problems. It seemed to the Board that it would be inexpedient to urge then an alteration in a large number of words which only bookish people would use, and which very few would be inclined to use in the first stages of practical simplified spelling.

It has been left to individuals to change the *ph* to *f* in all the words of the kind, or in some, according to their own convenience. Every

one who uses any simplified spelling whatever leaves a large part of the English vocabulary yet untouched.

The stages of simplified spelling thus far recommended are too few to affect more than a small minority of the words. It does no harm, therefore, if a writer uses *fonetic*, *telegraf*, *telefone*, etc., and leaves *phrenology*, *phyllotaxy*, *phylogeny*, *apophysis*, etc., untouched. Likewise one may properly simplify *campaign*, *foreign*, to *campain*, *foren*, and spell *arraign*, *champagne*, *paradigm* in "the good old Webster way." The Board is concerning itself at present chiefly with the practical difficulties of the words that are in common speech.

The inconsistencies and discrepancies of which critics complain, exist in the conventional spelling, but not in the precise simplifications recommended by the Board. The Board should not be held responsible for any recommendations which it has not made, or for any spellings which it has not formally approved, and which are not printed in the first, second or third list, or in the combined "Alfabetic List," published March 6, 1909.

## LONG S

For several centuries it was customary in printing English words to use one form of the letter *s* at the beginning and in the middle of words and an other form at the end. The form at the end was the original form (*s*), little changed in all the varieties of print. The other form, the so-called long *s* (*f*), was an imitation of a script variety of the same letter common in later medieval manuscripts, and written in the initial and medial positions.

There was no inherent reason why a difference should be made or maintained; but a difference was maintained until near the end of the eighteenth century, when some London publishers, under the lead of John Bell, decided to use the original and more graceful form *s* exclusively. The long *s*'s were discarded, and books appeared with the normal *s* form in all positions. The change was practically completed by the year 1800. A few printers and editors fought for the long *s*, for the reason that it was absolutely useless and unreasonable; but it is difficult to find any books printed later than 1810 in which the long *s* appears, except a few that are expressly archaic.

The result is that the long *s* is a definite mark of old books; and it is a piece of

fine accuracy, in reprinting old books or in reproducing quotations from old books, to use the long *s*. It is not always practicable; but all printers should have the long *s* included in their fonts of type in order to reproduce the literature of by-gone times.

All these pieces of antiquity are interesting; but modern men should not be first to use them for their modern purposes.

## BEST SPELLERS AND BEST SELLERS

Many members of the Simplified Spelling Board and of the Advisory Council have published articles or books other than works on simplified spelling, which contain amended forms; but it is not known how many use in print the simplified spellings of 1908 and 1909. If the friends of simplified spelling use such forms without announcing the fact, the enemy, who is always lying in wait to discover simplified spellings, may not discover them. It requires a proclamation, and a bass drum, and a lime light, to make some readers see simplified spellings when they do appear in print; yet many persons who favor simplified spellings are afraid—or their publishers are afraid—that if they use them the public will discover the fact and thereupon refuse for ever after to buy their books.

Of course many books will be printed in simplified spelling, and still, like many books in the conventional spelling, will fail to attract the public, or to secure buyers. It is likely that some publishers will ascribe the failure, not to the faults of the text, but to the peculiarities of the spelling. We take the liberty, therefore, of urging our friends who propose to print books in simplified spelling, to see to it that the text itself is in the highest degree interesting, not to say entrancing, to all readers. With this little precaution observed, no one need doubt of success.

## PROGRESSIV ORTHODOXY

A well-known American humorist, who pleases his sense of humor by taking his stand in defense of the orthodox spelling—seeing that the orthodox spelling has no other competent and spirited defender—ends a letter with a sentiment on which all parties may unite, namely:

"Yours for orthodox spelling—whatever that may come to be."

We also are for orthodox spelling—whatever that may come to be; and we intend to make it come to be something better than it is.

### "BY TELEGRAF"

This is the heding of the news colum of the *Truro Daily News*, Nova Scotia, Saturday, October 29, 1910. The colums are full of simplified spellings like *bilding*, *faild*, *ded*, *welth*, *kild*, *wreckt*, *hight*, *destroyd*, *receivd*, *helth*, *thru*. A subscriber sent us this copy with the claim that there is "more simplified spelling used in this paper than in any other on the Continent." This is a large claim, which we hope the *Truro Daily News* will continue to make good; but we shall not be sorry if some other paper on the Continent should be even more progressiv. There is plenty of room in front.

### BE NUMEROUS

In every State, in every university, in every normal school, the idea and the practis of simplified spelling find advocates, defenders, promoters. In every town there are men and women of the highest professional and social standing who favor the idea. The Signers of the agreement to use the improved spellings are counted by the tens of thousands. The public champions of the reform are many. The public champions of the opposition are as insignificant in number as they are in authority.

And yet the greater part of the public seems to be against the reform. Newspapers are adverse. Politicians are apathetic. Advertizers are indifferent. Some newspapers, a few hundred, some politicians, a few score, some advertizers, a few thousand, are indeed on the right side; but most of them are against us.

Why?

The reason is clear. They think we are not numerous. The newspapers crave a large circulation, because they can then raise their rates of advertizing. It is for and by advertizing that they live. They will give respectful consideration to anything that has numbers behind it. Does any one imagin that the newspapers would oppose simplified spelling if they knew that most of their readers approved it, or that their advertizers demanded it? Would politicians hesitate to approve what they knew would please the majority? By the majority they live and have their being. They love the majority. And not merely the total majority. They love any large number of persons who may be 'swung' to make up a majority. If simplified spelling were a political question—and it may one day become such—there would be only one thing needed to gain the insertion of a 'simplification

plank' into the platforms of both parties; namely, the proof, or the vigorous assertion, that the advocates of simplified spelling were considerable in numbers in any doubtful State.

Now the advocates of simplified spelling *are* numerous; but they are not numerous enuf; and they do not make it evident that they are even moderately numerous. Being largely professional persons, teachers, professors, clergymen, men of science, advocates of social 'uplift', idealists, high-minded and candid men, they lack the fine art, and the particular variety of taste, which some would not call fine, required to make their presence and their numbers quickly known.

But until they make their numbers known, they will be neglected and disregarded by the politicians and the newspapers, who worship only one god, the great god Numbers.

Be numerous, and you will be happy.

### HOW TO RESIST IMPROVEMENT IN SPELLING

This is the truE conservative doctrinE. ResistE KnowlEdgE and it wilLE flee from yOu. KeepE yourE mindE shutTE. RepresSE yourE intellEct—it can be donE. DoE noUGht thinkE. AllowE noE change. Change is inNovation, and inNovation is destruction. Imagine what infinitE ruinE it wOuLdE causE, to dropPE these dumb letTers. It is requisitE to retainE them, or elsE the language wilLE perishE without respitE. If one thingE is alterEd, everythingE is destroyEd. ShowE the genuinE mediAevall spiritE. Aemulate primAeval customEs. DeterminE not to examinE into the matTер. ExhibitE obstinacyE. Be firmE, but indefinitE. Be hostile to allE reformE. ProhibitE improvEmEnt. DoE creditE and HonoUr to yourE mediAevall anTEcestoUrEs. LaboUr under diffiCultiEs. FavoUr rigoUr. ElicitE, and meritE, praisE from the critickS who arE mostE succesSEfully ignorant. Be a hermitE, or a clamME, or a crabBE—any thingE that stayEs, lookEs, or goEs, backEwardE. EndeAvoUr to cribBE, cabinE, and confine the mindE of yOuthE to the marginEs of KnowlEdgE. To leArNE ourE mother-tongUE oUGhtE to be a disCiplinE, not to sayE a scOurge. PutTE upPE at the portall of KnowlEdgE this motTo: "AbandonE hope, allE yeE Who enter here." Make the pathEs crooked and letTE no gleamE of liGHtE illuminE the darKE wayEs. And the children shalLE failE downE and callE you blesSed.

## ON PINIONS FREE

It is mentiond in the BULLETIN for September, 1910, that the *Condor*, A Magazine of Western Ornithology, publisht by the Cooper Ornithological Club of California, and edited by Dr. Joseph Grinnell of the University of California, has used simplified spellings in its columns. In one number, that for July, spellings like the following appear on every page. They are here arranged in alfabetic order. It will be seen that the most of them consist of simplified forms speld with -t in sted of -ed with a double consonant preceding: Altho, approacht, askt, attacht, bilding, bilt, campain, crost, cupt, dasht, developt, drencht, finisht, fixt, flopt, garded, guilty, hatcht, hight, intermixt, jerkt, lookt, markt, notist, peekt, percht, photograft, (a good start toward fotograft) possest, reacht, smasht, soakt, stept, talkt, tho, thoroly, thru, workt.

Preterit forms are relatively rare in abstract or argumentativ literature, but in narrativ, which involvs of course the past tense, they are very frequent. The *Condor* is full of narrativs of expeditions and searches and experiences of naturalists in the field; hence the forms in -t occur with frequency. And the very frequency soon makes the simplified spelling familiar and agreeable. These bright pages contain original observations of all kinds of birds. And a combination of original observations, fotografic pictures, and modernized spellings gives a triple attraction to the pages of a journal that would be, from its very subject, of perennial interest.

## SIMPLIFIED HISTORY

Miss Susan M. Fillips, of Stelton, N. J., has printed, in simplified spelling, a little pamflet, cald "Bits of History." It presents selected "bits of history" concerning Stelton, or Raritan township, Middlesex county, New Jersey, by decimal periods, from 1609 to the present year. These statements were recited by pupils of her school, who wore sashes indicating in color and legend some characteristic of the period in question. The idea is good, and the performance was enjoyable. The pamflet has been printed at the instance of one of the participating pupils, Miss Evelyn R. Letson. Thus, the pupils and the people of Stelton not only have bits of political and local history put before them in spoken and printed form, but they have a promis of future history in specimens of simplified spelling, such

as may be found in all the by-gone periods, and will be found, no dout, in a more advanst form in the next celebration that the Stelton schools may undertake.

## THORO BUT NOT THRU

Hamilton College puts forth an "Annual Register" which is written and speld in a breezy style—tho the orthografic breezes are very gentle. The "Annual Register" abounds in *tho*, *thoro*, *thoroly*, *catalog*, *program*, and other modern spellings. Applicants for admission are told that they must have the ability "to turn simple English into Latin"; and the information that they may offer "*Vergil's Eclogs*" intimates that they may be allowd to turn Latin into simple English, even simple English spelling. In the spellings *thro* and *throout* the College shows a kindly desire not to offend the babes in orthografy, offering the milk of *thro* rather than the strong meat of *thru*. It also grants the desire of the reactionists who love to be "mediaeval" in that spelling. And so, regardless of their doom, the little victims play.

## CONVERTED BY REASON

A well-known business man of St. Louis, Mo., wrote, under date of October 22, 1910, to a friend in New York, as follows:

I heard from the S. S. B. last week, and promptly took the oath of allegiance on general principles; but since then I have been gradually wading thru the batch of literature they sent me, and am now bowd down with grief and mortification at having been on the wrong side of this matter for so long, at my negligence in not having made intelligent investigations sooner, and last but not least, at the 3 precious lost years in which I could no dout have put in some good work for the cause.

I have red, or participated in all kinds of wrangles on various questions such as Slavery, Free Silver, Reinvestment, Prohibition, etc.; but I certainly never saw a line of argument that was so convincing as the pamphlets I received. The tendency of most people (including myself) when they are ded right, and know it, is to be arrogant and intolerant; but one of the most potent qualities of these tracts is the markt tone of temperance that prevails thruout. I have found every one of the pamphlets fascinating in the artistic manner in which they have been prepared; especially the one by Thomas, adressd to teachers, which is the most beautiful piece of logic I can recall having ever red. . . .

I shall no dout secure some more converts out this way eventually.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

The spelling *thru* is used thruout in an interesting book, by Fremont Rider, cald "Are the Dead Alive?" (1909). It is also used in an advertizement of the "Giant Safety Coaster" of Brighton Beach. On the "Giant Safety Coaster," you may go on a "mile-long chase thru the clouds" in sted of a mile-long chase thru *t-h-r-o-u-g-h*.

One of the cable telegraf companies proposes to reduce the rate of cable telegrams from 25 cents a word to 12½ cents for each five letters. The telegrams, to secure the reduced rate, must be written in "plain language"; that is, not in cifer. We may expect that when telegrams may be sent at the rate of 12½ cents for five letters, the senders will adopt a simplified spelling. This will make their "plain language" plainer than ever, and save money also. A man will ask why he should pay 50 cents for sending "scheme dropped through," when he could send the same words in plainer language, speld "skeme dropt thru," for 12½ cents less. On long messages of 200 or 300 letters, the saving would be considerable.

When you use in a letter or editorial a proper name that is picturesque or barbarous in spelling, tell the reader how it is pronounst. Who knows how to pronounce Roosevelt? Pinchot? Canalejas? Merry del Val? Ferrer? La Follette? Rothschild? Hrdlicka? Kossuth? Abdul Hamid? Guild? Brumbaugh? Rosebery? Bartholdi? Taft? Loeb? These are names of more or less well-known men. They recur in the newspapers of the present day, and yet most readers probably mispronounce them. Why? Because the spelling is not a sufficient clue to the pronunciation; that is, it fails of its object.

Send us the names of additional periodicals which have begun to use simplified spelling.

Write a letter to your newspaper when it goes wrong, or right, in the matter of spelling.

The principal of a public school in Illinois, who has provided his pupils with copies of the "Alfabetic List of Simplifications in Spelling," in sending for a further supply, says: "Our higher pupils adopt your new forms automaticly, nicely."

It is a significant fact that, whereas a few years ago the persons who felt inclined to oppose the movement for simplification did so publicly and unashamed, they now do so by less conspicuous methods. One method is to write on the card of agreement, which is usually sent out

with copies of the circulars of the Simplified Spelling Board, the word "not" before the words "use in my personal correspondence the simpler spellings," and to return the card unsignd, or signd with some fictitious name or initials. In one case the signature is "X. Y. Z., Teacher." It is well that a teacher who opposes the improvement of English spelling has the grace, out of respect for his profession, to acknowledge that he is a triply unknown quantity.

## SPELLING AND DIALECT

The spelling of a word is one thing, its pronunciation is an other thing, and dialect speech is a third. Many writers of fiction appear to think that dialect speech consists only in a change of spelling. Thus, in a novel, the hero, the earl, the vicar, the schoolmaster, will say "come" and have it speld *come*; but the laborer, the costermonger, will say "come" and have it speld *cum*. So easy is it to write 'dialect' stories! This principle has been extended even to the rough and tough words in *-ough*. Thus, F. W. Robinson, in "Poor Humanity" (1868, chapter 42, page 122) makes one of his rude characters say "enough" in the form *enuf*. There are endless instances of this orthografic fallacy to be found in the popular novels. Perhaps some of our readers may find it interesting to look for them, and to send them to the BULLETIN.

## A BACKWARD OUTLOOK

A correspondent in California, hearing that a well-known Eastern periodical, which has often exprest a desire to be progressiv, was using progressiv spelling, wrote to ask whether this was so. The editor replied: "You are misinformed. We use not improved spelling, but approved spelling."

The rebuke was just. Our correspondent ought to have known that there is a difference between a progressiv outlook and a progressiv practis. An editor with a progressiv outlook keeps a sharp lookout to see which way the wind blows, and in the mean time he 'stands pat.' While waiting on the wind, he preaches what is "approved"—by the majority. 'Progressive' (with a lagging *e*) is an approved word, and 'stand pat' is an approved practis.

Preaching is, however, a useful exercize. It inflates the lungs, and encourages the wind to blow.

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## FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board will be held in New York at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 4 and 5, 1911. The Annual Dinner will take place Wednesday evening, April 5. Friends of the cause who wish to attend the dinner may purchase tickets (price five dollars). Requests for places at the dinner should be made before the end of March.

## A LIVE QUESTION

The "Report of the Second Annual Meeting of the Maritime Press Association of Canada," contains, on pages 19 to 23, an address on simplified spelling delivered by Dr. David Soloan, of Nova Scotia, before the Association. Among other remarks, Dr. Soloan laid stress on the absolute need of making the English language, as used in Canada, more easy to acquire by the forenners who are immigrating in great numbers, and by the French of Quebec who, partly because of the difficulty of learning the English language, have stood, as it were, outside of the general current of thought and sympathy in the Dominion. Dr. Soloan says "they will never understand us or our civilization, or our civic and social aspirations and ideals, until they learn our language, read our books and newspapers, and exchange opinions with us. But no forener can learn our printed language unless he has years at his disposal for its study."

Dr. Soloan also referd to a similar language difficulty in South Africa, where Dutch is spreading and English is hinderd, because Dutch has been made easy to spell, while English has not yet been made easy to spell.

A prominent editor of Nova Scotia, in seconding a vote of thanks to Dr. Soloan, said that he had at first been skeptical of the motivs of the

advocates of simplified spelling; but that he was now convinst that it was an important movement which would soon become a live question.

## AN ARBOR OF IDEAS

Professor Clarence L. Meader of the University of Michigan, lectured on "Simplified Spelling" before the teachers of Ann Arbor, December 5, 1910. On December 8 and 9, Professor Morsbach of the University of Goettingen, who is an eminent exponent of English filology, delivered two lectures on the English language at the University of Michigan. At the close of his first lecture Professor Morsbach spoke of the movement for the simplification of English spelling.

According to the Ann Arbor *Times-News*, he urged the necessity of immediate and effective reform, carried on "not by a few scholars, but by the great mass of the public, and especially the business men and the journalists," since the question is one that should chiefly concern them, because they are the chief losers by our present system. The *Times-News*, commenting, said:

Professor Morsbach's views carry special weight, because they represent the unbiased judgment of a foreigner, who can in many respects appreciate our situation better than we can ourselves.

## LOVELY WOMEN

To be *lovely* then you must be content to be *women*; to be mild, social and sentimental; to be acquainted with all that belongs to your department, and leevie the masculine virtues, and the profound researches of study, to the province of the other sex.—1790 NOAH WEBSTER, Collection of essays, p. 411.

But let lovely women note that the author of this lovely sentiment was named Noah. He was only spelling his way toward the lite.

# "THE COMPLEAT ENGLISH GENTLEMAN."

Daniel Defoe, the author of the immortal "Robinson Crusoe," was the author of a great many mortal works whose number and titles have exercised the zeal of bibliographers. He wrote in 1729 a book entitled "The Compleat English Gentleman." This book was never printed until 1890. Happily it was then edited, from the author's autograf, by a scholar (Dr. Karl D. Bülbring), and publisht by a publisher (David Nutt, London) who did not think it his business to interfere with the spelling of the author and the scholarly opinion of the editor. The book was printed as Defoe wrote it, and therefore presents a correct picture of the spelling used by an educated, energetic, common-sense man, a practist writer, in the first part of the eighteenth century.

Among the spellings used in this book are the following. Many of them agree with simplifications recommended by the scholars of today, and others show the unsettled strife of old and new. We group the words:

1. Activ, affirmativ, alternativ, destructiv, diffusiv, exclusiv, expensive, extensiv, nativ, negativ, passivly, perspectiv, positiv, prerogativ, primitiv, receptiv, respectiv, superlativ, talkativ.

2. Believ, deciev, undeciev, reciev, retriev, leav, sleeve; deserv, observ, preserv, reserv, serv, resolv, starv.

3. Hav, giv, liv; engin, examin, medicin; gon.

4. Tho', altho', thoro'ly, thro', thro'-out; kno', overthro'.

5. Accomplisht, askt, confest, confesst, conversst, distinguisht, dropt, embarrast, embarrasst, fixt, laught, lookt, mixt, nurst, opprest, perplexst, rankt, retrencht, stufft, wrapt.

6. Bless't, burn't, embarrass't, express't, furnish't, hiss't, knock't, learn't, nurs't, pass't, possess't, puff't, reproach't, suck't, thank't, untouch't; convinc't.

7. Abolish'd, dip'd, dispers'd, dress'd, embellish'd, furnish'd, laugh'd, lay'd, look'd, mix'd, nurs'd, pinch'd, press'd, push'd, stretch'd; forc'd, plac'd, influenc'd, reduc'd.

8. Abhorr'd, allow'd, allowd, answer'd, beg'd, blacken'd, call'd, charm'd, concern'd, conciev'd, condemn'd, conferr'd, deserv'd, doom'd, drown'd, dun'd, dunn'd, employ'd, entail'd, esteem'd, flatter'd, form'd, gain'd, hang'd, harden'd, hum'd, letter'd, levell'd, liv'd, maintain'd, open'd, parcell'd, perciev'd, poison'd, rais'd, reciev'd, render'd, repair'd, reserv'd, return'd, ruin'd, turn'd.

9. Acquir'd, approv'd, behav'd, belov'd, censur'd, deny'd, describ'd, fir'd, hir'd, inspir'd, prepar'd, requir'd, restor'd, shap'd, smil'd, squar'd, stor'd, supply'd, suppos'd.

10. Doubl'd, enobl'd, kindl'd, mingl'd, suckl'd, wheedl'd; sweetn'd; delivr'd, incumb'r'd, recovr'd, remembr'd, remembrd, suffr'd; considred, discovred, remembred, rendred.

11. Applicacion, circulacion, condicion, consumption, educacion, erudicion, excepcion, mencion, mocion, nacion, nocion, observacion, prohibicion, recepcion, relacion, stacion, superscripcion; accion, affliction, colleccion, defeccion, direccion, distincion, eleccion, introduccion, instruccion, reduccion, refleccion, subjeccion, transaccion.

12. Abov, lov, improv, mov, prov, remov; aliv, arriv, deriv, fiv, striv.

13. Farr, starr, mobb, bigg, fitt, sett, sitt, admitt, summ, lordshipp.

14. Ballance, blocked = blockhead, bying, chaplin, chapline, cobbler, compleat, concieted, copy, cou'd, wou'd, dam (= damn), drivler, elce, forrest, gardner, hight, honorable, intrest, knowlege, loth, mannage, meer, onely, opaac, opake, patern, peice and peace (= piece) rallery, recieving, risque, scyon, sence, sencible, surprize; appetite, posess, posessor; lyar, lye, tye; ilett hole; familyes, studyes; tast, wast; out-pol; accademick, mechanick, musick, politicks, publick, tyrannick, etc.

Here is simplification in the making—some of it made; the lion of reason pawing to get free from tradition. Most of these spellings occur not merely once or twice, but are used regularly, some with reverting variations, thruout the book. Many of them occur also in the first printed edition of "Robinson Crusoe" (1719); but even in that edition we see the fell work of the printer, and the work has been so manhandled by later printers and publishers that the orthograpy has ceast to be characteristic.

In time (not in due time—no good thing occurs in due time) the modern publishers who have, to a less extent but with no less arrogance, altered the spelling of other well-known English authors—Pope, Johnson, Cowper, Scott, Byron, Southey, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Macaulay, to say nothing of Shakespeare, Milton, Jeremy Taylor, Sir Thomas Browne, Dryden, and all the elder worthies—will come to see that they have no right to alter, or to permit their printers to alter, the spelling of the great authors whose works they profess to publish.

## HIGH SPELLING IN HIGH SCHOOLS

We have seen some recent examination papers written by girls in an Illinois High School. One paper is entitled "The Character of Hamlet." It has all the sagacity of the profest commentators. Other papers are debates on burning subjects: "Is it better for a young person to grow up in the country or the city?" "Resolvd, That the district schools of our State should be consolidated into town schools." The papers are well composed and well pend.

The spelling is almost perfect, according to the conventional standard; but the writers, with the allowance and recommendation of the teacher, use thruout the simplified spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board.

Pupils and teachers in other schools are doing the like. In a few years the new simplified spellings will seem as normal as the old simplified spellings, 'cat' and 'dog' and 'sled' and 'top,' seem now. When Shakespeare and Bacon went to school, they learnd the new spellings 'cat' and 'dog' in sted of 'catte' and 'dogge.' But 'cattes' and 'dogges' abounded for a generation longer. Then they suddenly disappeard. The moral is obvious.

## A MASSACREE OF THE INNOCENTS

We condense this story from a newspaper of Manila in the Philippine Ilands:

An inspector of the Bureau of Education of the Philippine Ilands, in Pampanga province, visited a school. A little Filipino red aloud a paragraf about a massacre in the time of Nero.

"Ah, um!" interrupted the inspector. "Why do you pronounce that word 'massaker'?"

The youngster made no reply.

"It should be pronounced 'massa-cree,'" continued the inspector, benignly.

There was a painful silence; then the teacher meekly said:

"Excuse me, sir; but the fault is mine, I think, if that word is mispronounced. I have told the class to pronounce it 'massa-ker'."

"Why, sir, may I inquire?"

"I believe that Webster, who compiled the great dictionary, favors that pronunciation."

"Impossible, sir!"

"Well, that is a matter easily settled. Here is a copy of Webster's Unabridged."

The inspector seizd the dictionary and hurriedly turnd to the word. For a moment his face was a study. Then he removed his glasses,

wiped them on a red silk handkerchief, and, replacing them, said solemnly:

"I am perfectly astounded, sir, that Mr. Webster should have made such a mistake as that."

The word is pronounst *massaker*, but it is not often speld *massaker*. It is commonly speld *massacre*, which means "massacree," or something like that, if it means anything. Lodge (1594) speld the word *massaker*, Cowley (1656) *massacer*, Milton (1667) *massacher*.

There are many such "mistakes" in "Webster." There are also many mistakes in our Bureaus of Education, and in that boasted educational system which compels teachers thruout the United States and in the Philippine Ilands to teach things that are not so.

## MODERN ENGLISH SPELLING

The *Quarterly Bulletin* of the State Normal School of Spearfish, S. D., for December, 1910, consists of an article on "Modern English Spelling," explaind as "A discussion of some of its difficulties and some of the suggestions recently offered for its amelioration; also a few of the general principles governing pronunciation." The author is Professor A. G. Kennedy, of the Department of English of the Normal School. The article fills 61 pages.

This is a conspectus of the whole subject as presented by the Simplified Spelling Board. It reviews the difficulties of English spelling, and the simplifications proposed by the Simplified Spelling Board; and discusses the details in an intelligent and judicious manner. The article is divided into 16 sections, the character of which may be seen from the following titles: "Final Silent e"; "Etymological Estrays"; "Phonetic Absurdities."

The article concludes:

How far, then, will the present influential body of men be able to improve our system of spelling? That, I believe, will have to rest with the great mass of English spellers, not with the Board alone; and so every intelligent student of the English language ought at this time to be studying the matter with a view to his own interests. If he approves he certainly ought to put his shoulder to the wheel; if in any respect he disapproves, he ought to be able to give an intelligent reason for his stand, and not base it upon mere sentiment. If, therefore, this *Bulletin* will have set anyone to thinking along this line, its purpose will be accomplished."

## IN DARKEST AFRICA

It is interesting to see that the movement for simplified spelling is obtaining recognition and approval even in the columns of *The Outlook*, which is edited by Dr. Lyman Abbott and Dr. Hamilton W. Mabie — and also has a Contributing Editor. *The Outlook* asked Sir Harry H. Johnston, the distinguished African explorer and administrator, a man who has contributed a great deal to the scientific knowledge of the races and languages of Africa, to review Mr. Roosevelt's recent book, "African Game Trails: An Account of the African Wanderings of an American Hunter Naturalist."

The review is written, as the reviewer says, "in warm appreciation of this book;" but he added some criticisms "founded on the English edition." The criticisms refer to the inadequate and unscholarly spelling, in the book, of the names of the places, animals and products of Africa, Asia and other lands. The main part of the criticism is contained in the following:

But the thing I mourn most is his complete back-sliding in regard to phonetic spelling. To think that Mr. Roosevelt should have penned or typewritten Soudan (Sudan), Khartoum (Khartum), "kooni telli" (kuni tele), "Mohammedan" (Muhammadan), "Alhazar" (Al Azhar), "Koodoo" (kudu), and other recalcitrancies, is indeed bitter, the more so as the London "Times," of late an opponent of scientific accuracy in transliteration, duly notes with delight the ex-President's lapse from his earlier position in regard to phonetic spelling. Of course these mistakes may be the fault of the London publisher and printer and may be absent from the American edition. It is my humble hope that they will not be allowed to persist in any version. The immediate respelling of the English Language on a logical phonetic basis (such as we have for nearly a century applied to all non-European forms of speech) may be a revolution which should proceed gradually, but it is a reform which is inevitable if English is to take its place as a universal world-language. But, in any case, all educated, scientific people agreed long ago that African, Asiatic, and Amerindian words and names should be spelled on a plain, consistent, and universal phonetic system; and a reversion to "Soudan" and "koodoo" may delight the "Times," but it saddens those who thought that Mr. Roosevelt was, before all things, on the side of rational accuracy.

Mr. Roosevelt's "back-sliding" is due, perhaps, not to his own action or inaction, but to the blighting influence of his publishers. British publishers are celebrated for their determined indifference to the dictates of science in respect to the spelling of words, especially the names of foreign places and animals and plants, altho the Royal Geographic Society and the leading philological scholars of Great Britain long ago adopted the principle of a scientific spelling for such

words. But British newspapers and British publishers have not yet learned these facts, being addicted to the "Early Victorian manner" of orthography.

Many American publishers may claim the same proud distinction; and, in printing a book for which they wish a foreign circulation, they like to introduce a few antiquated spellings like *honour*, and alien spellings like *centre*, *manœuvre*, and other criminal immigrants, in order thereby to catch, as they fondly hope, the unthinking but numerous British public. "The sports of children satisfy the child."

We notice in the American edition of Mr. Roosevelt's book several antiquated or awkward spellings, such as *criticising* with an *s*, page 104; *fusillade*, page 25; *sombre*, page 64; *although*, page 258; *veldt*, page 88, but also *velt*, pages 28 and 40; *Khartoum*, preface, page ix. On the other hand, the book contains the spelling *sais* (in plural *saises*, page 25) in stead of the awkward spelling *syce* (Arabic and Hindustani *sā'is*); and it contains *browsing*, page 96.

## OUGH

Jacques loves the English tongue, although  
He finds the spelling tough,  
And when he does not really know  
He does a little blough,  
And spells the termination sough—  
Making the queerest stough.

For when he tries himself to plough  
His way with trouble through  
The words he jotted down but nough,  
He finds it will not dough;  
He gazes stupid as a cough,  
And fails to find a clough.

When back across the Channel's trough  
He sails, as pale as dough,  
He fears his countrymen will scough  
To see his spelling gough  
Even in French a little ough,  
And hardly *comme il fough*.

1911 "Punch," Jan. 11, p. 26.

## DISHONESTY OF ENGLISH SPELLING

"Well, the truth is a heap o' bother to Barbie's teachers at the best," sez I. "Look at her spellin'—she comes upon a cross-bred word in a book an' the teacher sez it's pronounced one way, an' you another, an' me another until she thinks we're all liars; and she knows it the next day when she comes across another word spelled almost alike an' pronounced just the opposite. How you goin' to teach a child to spell an' be honest both?"—1909 ROBERT ALEXANDER WASON, Happy Hawkins.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

The National Committee of Agricultural Education has sent out, thru its Executive Committee, a circular dated November 25, 1910, address "To School Superintendents and to School Boards in the State of Iowa," calling their "official attention to the Proposed Vocational Educational Measure, now on the calendar of both Houses of Congress, that should be past before this Congress adjourns." The circular contains several other simplified spellings—"considerd," "genuin," "hartily." It is signed by members from six states. But the changed spellings are not marked. We can not approve of this attempt to impose on the simplicity of the Congressmen. Some one is sure to tell them, some day, that these spellings are simplified.

Under the heading "Simplified Spelling O. K. School Board Allows Its Use in the *Central Review*," the Washington (D. C.) *Herald* of November 18, 1910, makes a statement to this effect, concluding with the words, "*The Review* will appear for the rest of the year with spelling according to the rules laid down by Col. Roosevelt." This is progress—a board of education allows the use of better spelling by the students under its control. But the Washington *Herald* would oblige us by sending us a copy of "the rules laid down by Col. Roosevelt." These "rules" have been often mentioned, but they are wholly unknown to the Simplified Spelling Board and we believe also to Colonel Roosevelt.

President Homer H. Seerley lectured before a convention of teachers at Des Moines, Ia., December 10, 1910.

Among the subjects for the Curtiss prize essay—known as the literary versatility prize—to be competed for by students at Yale University, is included "The Present Condition of Spelling Reform." Hitherto at Yale only the leading professors have favored the reform of English spelling, and the movement has languished; but now that the real thinkers are about to take it up, no doubt it will boom. All success to the boys in their versatility.

At the annual meeting of the National Commercial Teachers' Federation at Chicago, December 28-30, 1910, a report of a special committee, of which Miss Gertrude O. Hunnicutt was Chairman, was presented, recommending that the proceedings of the annual meeting be printed in simplified spelling. The report was unanimously adopted and the action of the Convention was noted by the Associated Press.

There was no public opposition. This marks progress. In two or three former conventions of the Federation considerable opposition was manifested; and in one year a resolution approving the movement was defeated.

*Die Germanisch-Romanische Monatsschrift*, for 1910, contains, pages 592-603, an article on "The Movement for Simplified Spelling in America," by Professor George H. McKnight, of the Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio. The article reviews the movement, balances the opposing arguments, commends the aims and policies of the Simplified Spelling Board, and concludes as follows:

The present movement is the strongest one ever started for the improvement of English spelling. It is not likely to bring about such immediate results as have recently been accomplished for the French language within a short time, but with a sustained campaign will, we believe, in time batter down the walls of prejudice and introduce a more rational system for the spelling of the most widely used language of the earth.

## STYLE BOOKS

Almost every large printing and publishing house has what is called a "Style Book" or "Style Sheet," which contains rules and lists for the guidance of its staff of compositors and proof readers in regard to spelling, capitalization, punctuation and other typographic usage. There is nearly always a list of "preferred" spellings. These lists do not appear, in any case that has come under our observation, to have been selected with scientific intent or upon scientific advice. In a few cases the lists include some of the preferred simplified spellings. In most cases the lists contain many unsimplified spellings which have been indeed adopted, but which could not possibly be "preferred" by any human intellect—when the intellect is working.

It has been proposed to collect these style sheets and preferred lists, from all sources; to collate them, and to print a statement of the results of the collation; with a view to the publication of a rational manual which shall present the best usage and shall contain the best scientific advice, in respect not only to the spelling of words, but to punctuation, capitalization, and other matters of orthography and typography.

Perhaps the Simplified Spelling Board may assist in this work. We shall be glad to receive copies of such style sheets from any source, with a view to such a collation as has been proposed.

## LOCAL OPTION

It is well known to readers of the real literature of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that writers of both prose and verse speld the preterits and perfect participles of many verbs in *-ed*, *-d*, or *-t*. But many persons suppose that this variation was always arbitrary or capricious; and they pronounce the *-ed* forms of that time just as they pronounce them to-day, unless some disputed line obliges them to recognize *-ed* as a separate syllable.

It should be known that careful writers of that time deliberately intended to write these forms as *-ed*, *-d*, or *-t*, according to the pronunciation. They *ment* their spelling. Printers and careless writers made or accepted confusion; but in general, the writers ment what they speld. Observe the spellings in the following quotations:

He *peast*, and *couched*, while that wee *past* by.  
1563 SACKVILLE, *Induction*, *Mirr. for Mag.* (1815), 2: 329.

And wrong *repressed*, and *establisht* right.  
1596 SPENSER, *Faerie Queene*, 5: 1: 2.

Perdie great blame (then said Sir Calidore)  
For *armed* knight a wight *unarm'd* to wrong.  
1596 SPENSER, *Faerie Queene*, 6: 28.

Nor worn with Trauail, nor *infeebeled*.  
With hatefull Sloath.

1608 SYLVESTER, tr. *Bartas*, *Douline Weekes*, 2: 2: 3 (1: 365).

He first *tild*, *ploud*, *sowd*, *reapt*, and *fined* gold.  
1609 HEYWOOD, *Troja Britannica*, 5: 19: 111.

He hath *foild* thy enemy and *disarmd* him: Stand fast: He is *conquerd*, if thou strive to conquer.

1644 QUARLES, *Barnabas and Boanerges* (1646), p. 182.

... *prizd* ... *prizd* ... *frownd* ... *recald* ...  
*despiad* ... *condemnd* ... *scandald* ... *slanderd* ...  
*despiad* ... *chastend* ... *stilde* ... *dismaid*.

1644 QUARLES, *Barnabas and Boanerges* (1646), p. 180-182.

Ah how can my *distressed* soule finde rest when Sion the rest of my *distressed* soul is *opprest*.

1644 QUARLES, *Barnabas and Boanerges* (1646), p. 102.

Ten thousand terrors through the darkness fled,  
And Ghosts *complain'd* and Spirits *murmured*.

1656 COWLEY, *Pindarique Odes*, *The Plagues of Egypt* (Wks. 1672, [3]: 61).

In the first quotation, "He *peast*, and *couched*," would now be printed "He *peaced*, and *couchèd*." Which is better? In the third quotation from Quarles, *distressed* is the participial adjectiv, and is to be pronounst *distress-ed*, just as we pronounce *bless-ed* in similar positions. But *opprest* is the mere participle, and is so speld because so pronounst. In the second quotation from Spenser, the meter requires *re-pres-sed* and *es-tablisht*, and Spenser wrote what the meter required. Why not? Is not a poet entitled to make his own verses and to show his own meter? And shall not even a prose writer be allowd to print his words in the form which his judgment approves?

Burns wrote:

His *locked*, *letter'd* braw brass-collar.

1786 BURNS, *The Twa Dogs* (Poems, repr. 1870, p. 10).

Is this not better than "lockèd, lettered"?

The following examples represent thousands of cases in which English poets have speld the preterits with *t* according to the requirements of the verse—that is, where they use spelling to mean something:

Nectar from her lips it *sipt*,  
Here it *hopt*, and there it *skipt*.

1738 FAWKES, *The Sparrow* (from Catullus) (Original poems and translations, 1761, p. 33).

The swallow *stopt* as he hunted the bee,  
The snake *sipt* under a spray.

1842 TENNYSON, *The Poet's Song* (Early poems, 1900, p. 271).

The dog that *snapt* the shadow, *dropt* the bone.  
1877 TENNYSON, *Harold*, 1: 2 (p. 36).

## ALL IN

A correspondent sends us the following paragraph, cut from a country newspaper. We copy the paragraph just as it is printed in the original. The words refer to an other matter, but may be applied equally well to the present spelling:

"The present system is antiquated in the extreme, even though there can be little fault found with those at present carrying it out."

It will be seen that the printer got in all of *though*, even though he scatterd it over two lines; but why not put *ugh* in a "comic" Sunday supplement with the other rubbish?

## ORRYBLE

Persons who profess to feel horror at the idea of an improved spelling will be pleased to learn that they have good old antiquated authority for feeling "horror," which of course they will now "favour." If they wish something more picturesque, let us recommend the following, from an old English-Latin dictionary:

ORRYBLE. *Orridus, horribilis.*

ORROWRE. *Horror.*

c.1440 *Promptorium Parvulorum* (1843-1865), p. 369, 371.

## THE DICTUM OF A BISHOP

Verbs ending in *ch*, *ck*, *p*, *x*, *ll*, *ss*, in the Past Time Active and the Participle Perfect or Passive admit the change of *ed* into *t*; as, *snatcht*, *checkt*, *snapt*, *mixt*, dropping also one of the double letters, *dwelt*, *past*; for *snatched*, *checked*, *snapped*, *mixed*, *dwelled*, *passed*.

1763 [LOWTH], *Short Introduction to English Grammar*, p. 70.

The verbs admit it; the bishop admits it. Why should we try to conceal it?

## SIMPLER SPELLINGS IN BOOKS

The following titles of books and pamphlets in which simplified spellings are used is additional to the list to be found on page 3 of the BULLETIN for December, 1909 (Vol I, No. 3):

GERHARD H. BALG, Ph.D. 1. "A Gothic Grammar, with Selections for Reading and a Glossary." Translated and edited from Wilhelm Braun. 2d ed., Milwaukee, 1895. 2. "A Comparative Glossary of the Gothic Language." New York, 1887-1889. 3. "The First German Bible by the Gothic Bishop Wulfila." 1891.

JOSEPH BOWDEN, Ph.D. "Elements of the Theory of Integers." New York, 1903. The Macmillan Company.

The author uses fifty simplified forms, such as *altho*, *analog*, *ar*, *befor*, *definit*, *enuf*, *fixt*, *giv*, *premis*, *resolvd*, *ther*, *thot*, and *thru*.

JAMES V. BOWEN, professor in the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College. "The Main Essentials of German for Students of the Sciences." Privately printed, 1909.

ANDREW CARNEGIE, LL.D. 1. "William Chambers: An Address delivered at the Celebration of the Jubilee of the Chambers Institution. Peebles, October 19th, 1909." [New York, 1909.] 8vo, pp. 20. 2. Introduction to "The Peace Problem, The Task of the Twentieth Century," by Rev. Frederick Lynch. New York, 1911. F. H. Revell Co.

Printed according to the simplifications recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. Mr. Carnegie, who is a fiery preacher of peace and simplicity, takes a singular delight in practising what he preaches. If he had more "tact" he would merely preach, and let others practise. With "tact" you can stand well in one camp and pat in the other.

DAVID STARR JORDAN, LL.D. "The Fishes of Samoa." Publishd by the Bureau of Fisheries, Washington, D. C., 1908.

FREDERICK KLAEBER, Ph.D. "Old English Historical Prose Texts." The University Book Store. Minneapolis, Minn., 1896.

WILLIAM STEPHEN KRESS. "Questions of Socialists and Their Answers." Publishd by the Ohio Apostolate in 1908; 6914 Woodland av. S. E., Cleveland, Ohio; 8vo, 216 pp., price 25 cents.

M. J. MINCKWITZ (Munich). Review in the *Romanic Review*, Nov.-Dec., 1910. Here a German scholar reviews a French book, writing in the English language and in the best English spelling.

PUBLIC PRINTER (Government Printing Offis), Washington, D. C. Numerous documents, including: "Simplified Spelling for the Use of Government Departments." First ed., September 4, 1906; second ed., October, 1906.

This pamphlet includes the first five circulars of the Simplified Spelling Board and a special list of the Three Hundred Words. It was accompanied by a card containing the Three Hundred Words, and by a vest-pocket booklet also containing the Three Hundred Words.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, LL.D. "President's Message, December 6, 1906," and other executiv documents.

Mr. Roosevelt used simplified spelling in documents and correspondence sent out from the White House during his term as President, from August 24 up to March 4, 1909.

JOHN H. SCHAFFNER, A.M., M.S., associate professor in Ohio State University. "Outlines for General Botany." Second ed., 1910.

In this edition the author uses a number of simplified spellings, including *thru*, *thruout*, *tho*, *altho*, *thoro*, *sulfur*, *monecious*, *diecious*, *andrecium*, *gynecium*, etc.

CHARLES E. SLOCUM. "History of the Slocums, Slocumbs and Slocombs of America, Genealogical, Biographical, Marriages, and Descendants in Both Male and Female Lines From A. D. 1637 to 1908, etc."

RAYMOND WEEKS, Ph.D., Columbia University. 1. *Allgemeine Phonetik, 1907-1908*. In "Romanischer Jahresbericht," Vol. 11, 1910.

A review of nineteen works on general fonetics or on the fonetics of English, French, German and Catalan.

2. Reviews of Books, in *Romanic Review*, Vol. 1, No. 2, April-June, 1910, pp. 119-222; No. 4, Oct.-Dec., 1910, pp. 451-453.

In these reviews Professor Weeks uses unabasht the simplified spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board, and more of the same sort.

## INTENSIV AGRICULTURE

The letter-heds used by the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Department of Zoology, including the Offis of the State Entomologist, bear the legend "Spelling authorized by the Simplified Spelling Board used in this offis." Strange to relate, the agricultural and mechanic arts, the cultivation of agricultural zoology, and the regulation of the insects of the State, go on just the same—indeed a little better. Because scientific simplification applied to one department of life is sure to promote simplification in other departments of life. Spelling in accordance with reason will thus lead to the reduction of insect pests, and therefore increase the crops. If you do not believe this, state the opposit case, and tell us whether you believe that. Agriculturists have always tended toward simplicity of spelling, and here is a financial reason to confirm their views.

## "THOROLY MIXT"

We notis the "Medusa Products" of the Sandusky Portland Cement Company, Sandusky, Ohio, because in a recent circular (December, 1910), the Medusa of simplified spelling lifts its horrid hed. What can be thought of a cement which its vendors declare to be "thoroly mixt" and as to which they add that "thoro mixing is of the utmost importance"?

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

Issued quarterly by the Simplified Spelling Board, at No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, N. Y.

Thomas R. Lounsbury, President; New Haven, Conn.

Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer; No. 701 Sixth avenue.

Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

5 cents a copy; 10 cents a year.

Entered at the Post Office, New York, as second-class matter.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A teacher of New York State, one of the Signers, writes: "The promptness and exactness with which you so willingly answer all questions is one of the best traits of your Board."

It is the main aim of the Board to spread information about English spelling and about the proposals for its simplification. To that end it is willing to answer all questions.

Correct information in regard to Simplified Spelling is almost certain to reduce existing prejudice or hostility, and to prevent future opposition. This is in part the reason why there is now so little public argument against the proposal to simplify English spelling. If we have not converted our enemies, we have at least spiked their guns. Let any one try, as a matter of curiosity, to induce any recognized scholar, any conspicuous writer or public man, to write or to speak in public, in any detail, against the movement to simplify English spelling.

## THE SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

The purpose of the BULLETIN is to furnish the steady friends of simplified spelling with a stream of information, constant and clear, though small, in regard to the progress of the movement, and to inspire them to continue their efforts to spread a cause which is theirs quite as much as it is ours. The BULLETIN aims also to present the elementary ideas of simplified spelling in an elementary way to those now indifferent persons who may be willing to consider those ideas, who may be ready for information, and who may wish to make up their minds in a sound judgment.

The price of the BULLETIN is merely nominal, but it serves as a slight test of the degree of interest which the subscriber takes in the

matter, and provides the Board with the names of the specially interested friends of the cause, who may become influential in spreading the idea, and in making the practice possible in various directions. Any one who subscribes to the BULLETIN says, in effect, "I believe in intellectual ideas, and I wish to associate myself with others who so believe, in order that I may know more about this movement, and may work in harmony with the best educational leaders in promoting it."

We close with a sentiment that has been sincerely uttered at different times by nearly all our esteemed contemporaries; one of the few noble sentiments that no journalist, even the most reckless, has ever dared to attack; namely, "NOW IS THE TIME TO SUBSCRIBE!"

## "POETIC LICENSE"

Many persons who can not accept the terrible idea of spelling words as they pronounce them, but love to spell them as other persons spelled them ages ago, are troubled by our citations of spellings like *dropt*, *snapt*, *wisht*, *establisht*, etc., and of *foild*, *raind*, *fild*, and the like, from the very authors whom they profess to venerate and follow. They can not deny the accuracy of the citations—we stand ready to prove them (some thirty, some sixty, some an hundred-fold); but they say that such forms are due to "poetic license" or are "used only by the poets." The only "license" in this case is the every-day prose license which these critics take in saying things that are not so. Of course, they do not mean to misrepresent facts; but they do not take pains to ascertain the facts. These forms were used both in prose and in verse. But they were used a thousand times oftener in prose; for the simple reason that the area of printed prose is a thousand times greater than that of printed verse (a consoling reflection, this!)

The main difference is that what are known as the 'standard' poets are, theoretically, more popular than the 'standard' prose writers; and that it is easier to find words and spellings in printed verse than in printed prose. But we can omit every poet, and every prose writer who also wrote poetry, and yet give "chapter and verse" from undeniable prose for all the old spellings in question. Every one who is really familiar with English literature before the Age of Petrified Spelling will confirm this statement. The writers who oppose simplified spelling

in the interest of English literature, do not know English literature. Apparently, few of them have ever seen an English book that was printed before the nineteenth century; and most of them fondly believe that the books which modern publishers in London, New York and Boston present as the "works" of the "standard authors" really represent the actual works of those authors, as the authors wrote them.

### ELEVENTH HOUR PIONEERS

Not a few business men and firms write to the Board announcing their intention to adopt simplified spelling in their circulars and advertisements; and to confirm their desperate intention thus to be pioneers in the reform, they ask for lists of the prominent business men and firms that already use simplified spelling. We welcome these pioneers. They are men of safe judgment. Pioneers who wait to follow other pioneers suffer no harm and arrive at the goal safe and sound and comfortable. Happily, we can accommodate pioneers of this kind. Many business men and firms are now using simplified spelling. If publishers are business men (and authors think they are), more than two hundred business men of this worthy class are in the printed list as using simplified spellings in their publications.

### SPELLING IN COLLEGES

Again it is reported that the students of a large college have been found so defective in spelling that special spelling classes have been organized, which those students who fail in spelling are compelled to join. We are glad to hear this. We are glad that the students have been compelled to go back into the spelling class. We are glad that the teachers who might be spending their time on more important matters are compelled to spend time on this. It will make them think about simplified spelling; and whatever they do in the matter will be to the advantage of simplified spelling.

The professors in most colleges know of the existence of the movement, and of its purpose. They have either recognized its importance and have publicly approved it, or else they have kept their thoughts to themselves. But every man must one day pay attention to the subject.

The result is not doubtful. In a few years the teachers and the students of every college

will be spelling in conformity with the scholarship, if not of today, at least of 25 years ago, when the new idea of simplified spelling gained a secure hold among advanced teachers; and they will no longer be spelling according to the unscholarly, unscientific, and antiquated spelling of 60 and 80 years ago—which is the kind of spelling most teachers are trying to compel their pupils to learn; which the pupils can not learn, won't learn—or at least don't learn—and for which they are rated as delinquent.

### THE CONDOR BROUGHT DOWN

*The Condor*, whose flight into the clear air of scientific orthography we noted in a recent number of the BULLETIN, has been brought to earth. *The Condor* is the organ of the Cooper Ornithological Club of California, and is controlled by a vote of its members. The editor, Professor Joseph Grinnell, agreeing with the opinions of other scientific men and of all advanced educators, began to use some simplified spelling in that periodical. Some of the members protested. The editor adopted the postal-card "referendum." He asked the members of the Club to vote on the subject by postal card. There are some 300 members. The editor reports, in the number for Jan.-Feb., 1911 (Vol. 13, No. 1, page 36):

"In the vote regarding simplified spelling, 107 Cooper Club members expressed their opinion distinctly one way or the other. There were 44 votes for the continued use of simplified spelling in our magazine and 63 votes against it. Thus the editor was disappointed in his cherished object."

The editor points out that "the vote in the West alone gives a majority for simplified spelling;" but, as it is a Club matter, the majority of 19 votes among the 107 members who took the trouble to vote (on a one-cent postal card) forbids the editor to apply his orthographic principles in *The Condor*. If only 10 members had voted the other way, simplified spelling would have been in the majority, and would, therefore, have been scientifically correct. In one sense the majority of the Cooper Club is in favor of simplified spelling, for, as nearly 200 of the members did not take the trouble to express their opinion against the idea of simplification, it is clear that they have no violent objection to the stand taken by the editor. Only 63 persons out of 300 members voted against the idea.

We shall now look with interest to see what the 63 conservative members of the Cooper Club

regard as *unsimplified* spelling. If simplified spelling is to be excluded, it is for the advocates of unsimplified spelling to tell what unsimplified spelling is, and sternly to exclude any spelling that has the least appearance of being simplified or reasonable.

Of course, it is only a question of time when the lagging members will come up to the advanced position of the others.

## THE WORM TURNS

We knew it would be so. The worm has turned.

The teachers of Iowa have enrolled themselves in great numbers on the side of simplified spelling. The principle and practice have been approved; teachers throughout the state have adopted them; and simplified spellings have been introduced into many schools. The universities, colleges, and normal schools have, through their leading professors—in some cases through their presidents—given their sanction to the movement. Among these institutions is the Iowa State Teachers' College, whose president, Dr. Homer H. Seerley, is a member of the Simplified Spelling Board. Exercising its discretion as a promoter of knowledge and diffuser of information, the State Teachers' College has been using simplified spelling in its publications. This fact has penetrated to some of the outlying counties; and on January 21, 1911, a representative, whose name we gladly consign to immortal fame, Mr. Zeller, to wit, offered a resolution intended to prevent the State Teachers' College from using any spellings other than those which this gentleman should approve. After "impassioned speeches" on both sides, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Schools and Text Books, where it will be allowed to ripen, or wither. In the mean time, as the State Teachers' College must use *some* spelling, it will use that which the members of the faculty and the leading educators and scholars of the State approve.

The disposition of the resolution was somewhat different from that of an other resolution of the same general character, which is said to have been introduced into the legislature of Indiana some years ago. This resolution recited the deplorable fact that certain finical scholars and doctrinaires were teaching the children of the State that the ratio of the circumference of a circle to the diameter is 3 plus an endless decimal—(3.1415...)—to the confusion of the

children, not to say of the legislators, of Indiana—moreover, a patent falsehood; since any man of sense knows that there can't be such a thing as an endless decimal—every decimal must come to an end some time, if only for lack of chalk. The resolution, therefore, went on to declare that hereafter the ratio of the circumference of a circle to the diameter should, in the State of Indiana, be exactly 3 to 1; thus getting rid, in the neatest way, of the annoying decimal fraction.

The resolution, it is said, was gravely discussed, and was finally referred to the Committee on Swamp Lands.

## WHERE ENGLAND LEADS

There is a prospect that our great institutions of learning will some day recognize the existence of the science of English phonetics and provide for the teaching and the learning of the same. We have something like this in some schools in the teaching of what is called 'fonics.' Unfortunately, in most cases, the system of notation employed is like that used in the current dictionaries, and is therefore unfit for any accurate use. Something, however, may be done with any notation, if the fundamental facts are recognized as worthy of attention.

There are only a few professors of phonetics in American universities. The idea is more widely recognized in Great Britain. There are several competent teachers of phonetics, professors or lecturers, in various English universities and upper schools. In the program of the University of London is a course of lectures on "The Phonetics of English for foreign students" by Daniel Jones, M.A., one of the leaders of phonetic science in England and the English editor of the *Maître Phonétique*, the organ of the International Phonetic Association. We quote from the announcement:

"Each Lecture will be followed by a practical class in English pronunciation. There will also be Practical Classes in the Second and Third Terms. An Examination for Certificates of Proficiency will be held at the end of the Third Terms. Lectures will also be given on French Phonetics, Experimental Phonetics, etc."

Of course it is a dreadful thing that universities should give any attention to so disgraceful a subject as phonetics; but persons who have examined into the matter inform us that there is no other possible way to learn the facts about the sounds of any language, except to study

fonetics; and they regard as futil the proposal of some sagacious persons to give such instruction, but to call it by some more popular name, as, for example, 'instruction in piano-forte practis' or 'the theory of fortifications.'

### WANTED—PERSECUTION

In Professor McKnight's article on "The Movement for Simplified Spelling in America" in a German filologic review, notist in an other colum, one sentence calls for remark. It is: "So decided is the popular prejudice against anything in the nature of spelling reform, that a school superintendent who would try to introduce the new spelling, would excite so much opposition on the part of the parents that he would almost certainly lose his place."

As to this, we can only say that we have not heard of any instance in which a school superintendent, or a principal, or a teacher, has been put in peril of losing his place by reason of his approval or teaching of simplified spelling. There may have been such cases; but they have not been reported to us. Perhaps the reason why few or no cases occur may be that comparatively few school superintendents have put the matter to the test. The article appears to reflect a common belief that such a result would follow, rather than a knowledge that such a result has followd.

If any superintendent or teacher who makes the test, finds that his place or his freedom of opinion is put in peril, we should like to be informd. Perhaps the Simplified Spelling Board could make an effectiv protest against such interference with the liberty of teaching.

### SILENT SUFFERERS

We have seen a letter from a subscriber to a well-known literary periodical, in which the writer sends the amount of an overdue subscription, asks that the paper be discontinued, and concludes with the gracious concession, "When you abandon that fool spelling, you can put my name on your subscription list again."

An other subscriber writes, "I hear on all sides the most pronounced opposition to your 'experiment.' I have taken the time to write. Most will suffer in silence."

We understand that it is the intention of the publishers to let their subscribers "suffer in silence"—"on all sides"—until they make a noise—on some side. Much as they would like

to oblige these uneasy gentlemen (who "take the time" to call names), the fact that two hundred thousand subscribers do not have the spirit to complain moves the publishers to think that it servs them right. As soon as a majority of the subscribers complain, out the new spelling will go. It requires only  $(200,000 \div 2) + 1 = 100,001$  complaints. Deducting the two complaints mentiond, there remain 99,999 complaints to be receivd. The offis will be kept open until the usual hour to receive these complaints. The cost of sufficient complaining, on postal cards, will be only \$999.99—a mere trifle, in a good cause. We make it a rule not to "suffer in silence" when we have \$999.99 to make a noise with.

### CONDEMNED TO HARD 'LABOUR'

A correspondent in Chicago sendes us a copie of an official document of the Department of Agriculture in Canada, in which the spellinges *favour*, *shewing*, and *honour* occurre within the space of five lines. The students of antiquities are infinibely indebted to officialls, agriculturall and other, for their untiring endeavours to give a flavour of antiquity to their productions, and to shewe that though they are unfortunately condemned to 'labour' in the present, they are determined to spelle and to thynke in the passed—the onely period of tyme that a gentleman can recognise or honour with his approvall.

### A SCIENTIFIC INDITEMENT

The *Bulletin* of the State Normal School at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, uses some simplified spelling, including the form *thru*. In the Bulletin for August–October, 1909, is a paper entitled "Some Thoughts and Suggestions on Spelling," by Mr. Frank Nichols Spindler of the Normal School. We take from it the following extract: "Correct spelling is the result of correct spelling habit for each word. The correct spelling of one word does not necessarily help in the spelling of another word. We do not get a general correct spelling habit—we get special correct spelling habits." p. 18.

He does not add that this is a scientific inditement of the conventional spelling, in which, in order to be correct, we must not allow our minds to seek or to depend on any relations or associations or on reason. Each spelling must be learnd by itself, apart from law, reason, or common sense.

## G HARD

There are persons who talk, and some who write—and get it printed—about ‘*g* hard’ and ‘*g* soft’ in Latin. It may seem a hard saying, but there was no ‘*g* soft’ in Latin. Every *g* that was seen or heard or written by any Latin-speaking person from the beginning to the decline and fall of the Roman empire was hard—hard as nails. We do not say that the Roman empire declined and fell because the people had begun to pronounce some *g*’s soft. No. There were other causes, into which we can not go. See Gibbon—with *g* hard.

It is true that in various books, beginning with the Latin grammars prepared by ill-taught school-masters for the ill-teaching of English school-boys, the statement is made that the Latin *g* is ‘soft’ in certain positions. And many dictionaries and geographies contain the names of Latin and Greek persons and places with many of the *g*’s marked as pronounced ‘soft.’ This merely means that some school-masters, following a loose custom of their own vernacular, had fallen into the way of so pronouncing some Latin and Greek words. But the rule, artificial as it is, has never been consistently applied. For example, in the “Encyclopedic Dictionary,” most of the words beginning with *gymno-* are pronounced with *g* hard, as it was in the Greek and in the Latin. Even in “Stormonth’s Dictionary,” a dictionary painfully conforming to every orthodox notion, right or wrong, some words from the Greek are pronounced with *g* hard, where by ‘rule’ it should be ‘soft’; for example, *misogyny*, which is there pronounced *misog’ini* and not *misoj’ini*. So we hear professors in universities pronounce scientific terms like *epigynous* and *perigynous* with *g* hard. Walker himself protested (1798) against pronouncing “such words as *gymnastic* and *heterogeneous*” with “Greek and Latin sounds,” that is, with ‘hard *g*.’

In regard to proper names the pronunciation of the *g* hard is not at all uncommon. Many persons pronounce *Geta*, *Hegesippus*, *Phlegethon*, etc., with a hard *g*. Some would pronounce *Phlegethon* very hard. The name *Gyges* is pronounced often *Gijes* (Guy Jeeze) as well as *Jijes* (Jy Jeeze). Both pronunciations are unlike the Latin and the Greek, but ‘*Gijes*’ at least starts right.

Similar statements may be made concerning the words containing *c*, which in classic Latin was never ‘soft,’ and which answers in Greek to *k*, which the softest of modern conformists has never asserted to be soft.

The *g* and the *c* are for the most part also hard in modern European representations of names of places and persons in Asia, Africa, and other remote countries.

Let us give a rule for the pronunciation of foreign names of places and persons, applying to ancient Latin and Greek names as well as to names in modern Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Australia and Polynesia. The rule is: Pronounce the *g* hard, and pronounce the *c* hard—even vehemently. Pronounce the vowels as they would be pronounced in German or in Italian.

You may do all these things and yet pronounce the word wrongly; but you *may* be pronouncing the word rightly. Whereas, if you pronounce the words according to the so-called ‘English’ analogies, you are certain to pronounce them wrongly. It is better to be right sometimes than to be wrong always.

## LOCAL AGENTS

The cause of simplified spelling as a propaganda among the people is in the hands of many persons, some acting in concert with others, and many acting individually. The largest organization for the purpose is the Simplified Spelling Board, with its associated Advisory Council. The Board and Council are further aided in their work by a number of appointed Local Agents.

These local agents receive and distribute the literature issued by the Board, secure signatures to the cards of agreement, arrange for lectures before teachers’ institutes and other assemblies, write or procure the writing of letters to the newspapers, and in other ways spread the light of information in their jurisdiction. They also report to the Board, and advise it of new opportunities.

Any one who desires to act as a local agent of the Simplified Spelling Board and to receive its publications for distribution, may obtain on request the necessary information. To young men of literary or scientific tastes the position offers exceptional opportunities for extending their acquaintance and influence.

A list of the Local Agents, with their addresses, will be printed in the next number of the BULLETIN.

## TURBULENT CONSERVATISM

“A Froward Retention of Custome, is as turbulent a Thing, as an Innouation.”—1625 BACON, *Innovations* (*Harmony of the Essays*, ed. Arber, 1871, p. 526).

## Y. M. C. A. REFORM

A librarian of the Young Men's Christian Association wrote, December 7, 1910, as follows:

I am very much interested in the work of this Board and to a limited extent practise the principles laid down by it. I am very glad to say that many of our Secretaries throughout the country recognize the principle of simplified spelling, and use it to some extent, especially in printed matter. Our Committee here also does the same.

He added that the periodical, "Association Men," the organ of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A., altho "quite conservative in this matter," uses some simplified forms, like "catalog," "quartet," etc.

## LEAFLET LESSONS

Among the publications of the Board, not the least in importance tho the least in size, are the little Leaflets. They are lessons in spelling such as one never sees in the common spelling-books. Inclosed in letters, they speak volumes. Ten Leaflets (twenty pages) have been publisht. More will follow. The Leaflets may be had free, on request, by any one who can use them to advantage.

We give here copies of three of these Leaflet lessons:

## NO PUZZLE: FIND THE BEST FORMS

catalogue	rhyme	cocoa
catalog	rime	coco
debt	isle	scythe
det	ile	sithe
crumb	guard	build
crum	gard	bild
though	guardian	head
tho	gardian	hed
campaign	active	steadfast
campain	activ	stedfast

## WHICH IS THE BETTER WAY?

bet	bout	bard
get	gout	card
let	lout	hard
met	pout	lard
net	rout	regard
pet	shout	gUard
set	trout	gUardian
deBt	douBt	vangUard

## THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT

capped	lapped	snapped
chipped	lopped	stepped
chopped	mopped	stopped
clapped	napped	strapped
cropped	nipped	tapped
dipped	popped	tipped
dripped	propped	topped
dropped	rapped	trapped
flapped	ripped	tripped
hopped	slipped	whipped
capt	lapt	snapt
chipt	lopt	stept
chopt	mopt	stopt
clapt	napt	strapt
cropt	nipt	tapt
dipt	popt	tipt
dript	propt	topt
dropt	rapt	trapt
flapt	ript	tript
hopt	slipt	whipt

## BENN PITMAN

Benn Pitman, who made himself famous in association with his brother, Isaac Pitman, in the promotion of shorthand and the idea of the simplification of English spelling, died December 28, 1910, in his 89th year. To the last Mr. Pitman retained his interest in shorthand and the simplification of English spelling, and in the cause of industrial art. He was indefatigable in printing and circulating his favorite ideas of reform, and found time to ornament them with flowery and arabesque designs from his own hand. His death closes what may be called the Pitman era in shorthand and spelling reform. Mr. Pitman was a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board. His business associate, Mr. Jerome B. Howard, also a member of the Council, remains to carry on the work to which the veteran reformer devoted his long and useful life.

## SIMPLE AFFECTION

"I will see her," said Arthur. "I'll ask her to marry me, once more. I will. No one shall prevent me."

"What, a woman who spells affection with one f? Nonsense, sir. Be a man, and remember that your mother is a lady."

1850 THACKERAY, *Pendennis*, v. 1, ch. 13 (1854, 1:129).

But if affection that is not expressed in orthodox spelling is to be rejected, 't will be a cold world.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

One of the new inventions of the age is a device cald "Togards." As any one can see after being informd, "Togards" are a device to gard the stocking against the invasion of the to, which usually causes the good housewife a great deal of darning. There are some who would spell it "Toeguards," which does in fact look more woolly.

A company which deals in supplies for bakers and confectioners advertizes barrels and kegs of what they call, and spell, "Pi Stok." The 'pie-stock' appears to be composed sometimes of peach and sometimes of apple, apparently with the addition of other things (gess!). The youths of all ages would probably resist any attempt to reduce the 'pie stock' of the United States. We merely record the effort.

"Amatite Roofing" is much commended by its vendors—who "ought to know." It is supposed to say to all who see it "well and truly laid" upon the houses and barns of this favord land, "I am a tight roofing"—a full proof of its worth.

"Tezor Cocktails" may do more than tease. The adder also hath a tail and a sting.

"Nevatair Socks" put a dubious spelling upon a doubtful footing.

In the Jacksonville, Fla., *Times-Union*, March 5, 1911, there is an advertizement of a dry-goods shop which begins with the statement: "Stocks Thruout Markt with the Breth of Spring and the Promis of the Summer Just Ahed." The advertizer defends his own spelling as due to "the spirit of unrest—that unrest that calls for ever-continuing improvements—a not to be satisfied spirit with 'good enough' methods."

Some one advertizes "Forkdipt Chocolates." Few will care whether they are forkdipt, if only they are forkt over.

A sign painter in Philadelphia advertizes that he is prepared to make "Sines that reed," that is, signs that he who runs may read. They may be regarded as signs of the times.

The "Sokum Water Pistol" is offerd for sale in a Broadway, New York, toyshop. Its name is supposed to suggest its effect on the target, preferably a living one, rather than its value as a pledge to the impecunious.

The same purveyor of playthings advertizes "Ski Hi Balls," referring, it may be assumed, to rubber balls that may be hurld sky-high, and not to some form of elevating drink.

"Uneeda Biscuit" is a statement that greets the wayfarer everywhere with persistent personal application. It can hardly be true, altho you may lack a biscuit, or you may like a biscuit. Some would prefer a biskit or a basket. Many of our ancestors, who had no desire to imitate the modern French spelling, speld it one or other of those ways. What is the use of keeping in this word the occult suggestion that the thing has been 'twice baked' (Old French *bescuit*, Latin *bis coctus*)? As a matter of fact, the Great American Biscuit, the deliteful and unholosome hot biscuit, is never twice baked, tho it has been more than twice blest.

## GOING ON RECORD

"The American Year Book, a record of events and progress, 1910, edited by S. N. D. North, LL.D., under direction of a supervisory board representing national learned societies," has just been publisht in New York by D. Appleton & Co. In "Department XXXII, Literature and Language," there is a special article on "Simplified Spelling," by Charles P. G. Scott. The article states the facts about the Simplified Spelling Board, the Simplified Spelling Society, and the Advisory Council, gives the names of the members, and mentions the main points of the work of the Board. We quote a part of the last paragraf:

The movement for simplified spelling is opposed by an immense popular prejudis, and deals with a subject about which the intelligent public knows less than it does about any other subject. The movement, has, therefore, been the object of much misrepresentation. The Board is endeavoring in its publications to dissipate this prejudis and to diffuse correct information; and it desires that persons who feel any dout about the propriety of the movement, or about its principles, shall ask for the circulars of information publisht by the Board itself, and make up their minds after, and not before, acquiring the information. A request sent to the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, will bring the necessary information free.

Simplified Spelling is now notist in a number of almanacs and other annual records. It is only a question of time when the subject will appear in all annual cyclopedias. As the subject is almost the only one belonging to literature and language which has been either treated with vituperation and misrepresentation, or avoided by a conspiracy of silence, it is encouraging to observ that it is now admitted as a matter of course into important records of public actions.

## A LIVING FORCE

The Modern Language Association held its annual meeting at the College of the City of New York, December 28-30, 1910. It is interesting to know that most of the officers of the year 1910 were members the Simplified Spelling Board or of the Advisory Council, namely: President, Brander Matthews; Vice-President, Lewis F. Mott; Treasurer, William Guild Howard; Secretary, Charles H. Grandgent; other members of the Executive Council, Alcée Fortier, Charles Harris, George Hempl, Henry A. Todd; Editorial Committee, Charles H. Grandgent, James W. Bright, Calvin Thomas.

The officers for 1911 elected at the meeting mentioned, are: President, Lewis F. Mott; Vice-Presidents, Wm. A. Nitze, Laurence Fossler, and Carleton F. Brown; with the same Secretary, Treasurer, and Editorial Board; all Signers but one. This may explain why the Modern Language Association is arrayed on the side of simplification of English spelling. Its officers are chosen from its leading men; and its leading men must necessarily, as scholars, favor every progressiv movement in scholarship and education.

The American Dialect Society also held its annual meeting at the same place. The officers for 1911 are: President, Calvin Thomas; Vice-President, Charles P. G. Scott; Secretary, William E. Mead. Other active members of the Society are Professors James W. Bright, Charles H. Grandgent, Oliver F. Emerson and George Hempl. All the men named, except one, are members of the Simplified Spelling Board. At the same place met also the Concordance Society, several prominent members of which are also members of the Simplified Spelling Board or of the Advisory Council.

It may suit the opponents of simplified spelling to treat these learned societies as being insignificant and uninfluential; but the fact is that they include in their membership many of the leading educators of the United States; most of the authors of the new college textbooks; and many of the leaders in pedagogical science. These men, thru their books and thru their influence upon the makers of elementary books, constitute a living force that is steadily overcoming the stolid but unorganized opposition to simplified spelling. Who are the learned men, where are the learned societies, that are opposed to this scientific and educational movement? Can dead inertia contend against a living force?

## 'CHEQUE' MATED

The American Bankers' Association is issuing what it calls, and in America spells, "Travelers' Cheques." These pretty bits of paper are very useful, and we are quite willing to see their use extended; but we call the attention of the American Bankers' Association to the fact that "Travelers' Cheques" is not speld as long as it might be, and as it is speld in Great Britain. Travelers are fond of longitude, and in expounding their journeys they are said to use great latitude. It is certain that they like to have their "travelers' cheques" stretcht out as long as possible. Accordingly, we recommend to the American Bankers' Association that they spell the phrase "Travellers' Checques." Thus everything will be in keeping, "Travellers' Checques" being in the same Corinthian style of orthografic architecture as "foreign moneys," "foreign countries," and other phrases used in the advertizements of the American Bankers' Association.

## RECURRING WORDS

The *Progressive Stenographer* for October, 1910 (Vol. 2, No. 12), contains on page 622 an article entitled "Word Repetition." It includes lists of the frequently recurring words in specified passages of English. The lists show again the fact that the vocabulary of a given piece of writing is much affected by the subject of the writing, and that the list of the words contained, with the statement of their frequency, is apt to differ a great deal from a similar list of words taken from a work on some other subject.

The *Progressive Stenographer*, by the way, has chosen a title to which it probably intends to conform in the future, when its title will be speld *Progressiv Stenografer*. In these days, when so much is made of the adjectives 'progressiv' and 'retrogressiv,' it behoovs us all to see where we stand; and if we are progressiv, to see that we don't stand.

## PROGRAM

In a British work by a British critic, with a British publisher:

Elliott . . . Yet he was a genuine and remarkable poet; and more than any other of our period he may claim to have carried out that part of Wordsworth's poetic program from which Wordsworth himself 'averted his ken'. . . .

1901 C. H. HERFORD, *The Age of Wordsworth*, p. 187. London George Bell and Sons.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

When Jennie Lind, the famous Swedish singer, was learning English, she wrote a letter (Christmas, 1848) to a friend, apologizing for answering "late." This word she speld, with fine Swedish accuracy, as "let." But she had occasion to speak of her 'neighbours.' She knew that the English word was speld in some barbarous fashion, so she made a brilliant gess and wrote "neibaughs." And her autograf letter comes up in this year of grace to show how easy it is for an intelligent forener to catch the spirit of English orthografy.

Altho many persons have permanently simplified the spelling of *pamphlet*, others are determined to hold to the old form, even if they have to change the place of the *ph*. Many correspondents write the word "phamplet" or "phamphlet." The main thing is to insert the *ph* somewhere; because, as all Greek scholars know, the etymology of all Greek words resides exclusively in the sacred *ph*.

The *Midwestern* (Des Moines, Ia.), in the issue of February, 1911, prints an article on "Simplified Spelling" by Dr. Homer H. Seerley, accompanied by an editorial. The article describes the work of the Simplified Spelling Board, and such words in it as come under the rules recommended by the Board appear in their simplified form.

Mr. Francis Wilson, the well known actor and manager, has an article in the *New York Dramatic Mirror*, of February 1, 1911, entitled "The Persecution of the Stage Child." Mr. Wilson is also opposed to the persecution of the school child, and is, therefore, an energetic advocate of the simplification of English spelling. The editor adds this foot-note: "Mr. Wilson is an impartial reformer. His interest in simplified spelling is manifest in this article." The article contains such simplifications as *overworkt*, *ment*, *backt*, *prejudis*, *representativs*, *justis*. It will be seen that the editor of the *New York Dramatic Mirror* has no objection to holding the *Mirror* up to nature, even in the matter of English spelling.

It is pleasant to note that the Cambridge "History of English Literature," edited by Dr. A. W. Ward and Mr. A. R. Waller, and published by the University of Cambridge, reveals in its pages a slight advance toward a simpler orthografy, even if the advance is shown only in a

few words. *Rime* appears in this old and excellent form, and *medieval* is an improvement on *mediaeval* and *medixeval*.

Professor George L. Raymond, the author of several works upon the Philosophy of Expression, and long an advocate of the reform of English spelling, has published a new volume of essays entitled "Fundamentals in Education, Art and Criticism," and published by Funk & Wagnalls Company. It contains an essay on simplified spelling.

The *Reed College Record*, No. 1, March, 1911, the first periodical published by the newly established Reed College, Portland, Oregon, starts out with simplified spellings—*tho*, *altho*, *thoro*, *thoroly*, *catalog*, *program*, *address*, *published*, *thru*, *thruout*. The directors of the new college evidently recognize that in a new educational enterprise expressly intended to be upon advanced lines of progress it would be absurd to reject the opinions of the best educators and scholars in the matter of English spelling.

## GH

Persons whose surnames are now speld as in the following paragraph may not be aware that they are suffering under an outrageous reform. Their names are speld with an *f* or with two *f*'s, whereas they are entitled to the *gh* or *ch* which their ancestors used:

Affleck (which was, and to some extent still is, Auchinleck); Bruff (a simplified form of Brough); Buff; Claflin (compare with Laflin or Laughlin); Coffey (compare with Caughey); Huff (compare with Hough); Goff (compare with Gough); Laffan, Laffin; Laflin, Loflin (compare with Laughlin); Ruff.

We may expect that some of the possessors of these names, when they learn of their right to an antiquated, and now erroneous, *gh* or *ch*, will reverse their course of progress and spell their names according to the manner of ancient times—that is, of one of the ancient times—any old time will do, so the spelling is kept wrong.

With this number closes Volume II of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN. Volume III begins with the number for June. The present subscribers are reminded of their opportunity to subscribe for the next volume. Ten cents a year; five cents a copy. The BULLETIN will not be sent as a matter of course to all previous subscribers. Read the second article on p. 40.

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# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. III

JUNE 1911

No. 1

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## FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board took place April 4 and 5, 1911, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

### ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

William Archer, O. C. Blackmer, James W. Bright, Clarence G. Child, David Felmley, Oliver Farrar Emerson, Charles H. Grandgent, Isaac K. Funk, Henry Holt, Thomas R. Lounsbury, Brander Matthews, William H. Maxwell, Charles P. G. Scott, Homer H. Seerley, Benjamin E. Smith, Charles E. Sprague, Calvin Thomas, E. O. Vaile, William Hayes Ward, Andrew D. White.

The following members of the Advisory Council were also present at one or more of the sessions, or at the Annual Dinner:

Katherine D. Blake, Nathan Haskell Dole, Gano Dunn, Thomas D. Goodell, Hamilton Holt, Hudson Maxim, Lewis F. Mott, Henry Gallup Paine, Henry A. Todd, Frank H. Vizetelly, Raymond Weeks.

### REPORTS OF OFFISERS

The main purposes of the meeting were accomplished in the first session, Tuesday afternoon, April 4.

The report of the Secretary was read and accepted. Extracts appear in this issue of the BULLETIN.

The report of the Treasurer, Colonel Charles E. Sprague, with a certificate of audit by a firm of certified public accountants, was presented and accepted.

### ELECTION OF OFFISERS

The following committee was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year: Professor Bright, Professor Grandgent and Dr. Seerley.

At the second session on April 5, the committee made the following nominations, and the persons named were duly elected:

PRESIDENT: Thomas R. Lounsbury.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: William Archer, Andrew Carnegie, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, David Starr Jordan, Alexander H. MacKay, Francis A. March, Homer H. Seerley, Walter W. Skeat, Andrew D. White.

EXECUTIV COMMITTEE: Isaac K. Funk, Henry Holt, Brander Matthews, Charles P. G. Scott, Benjamin E. Smith, Charles E. Sprague, Calvin Thomas, William Hayes Ward; with the President, Thomas R. Lounsbury, as a member *ex officio*.

### SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, and Professor Walter Rippmann, of the same society, spoke of the progress made by that society in the past year, and of the present state of opinion among the members as to the next steps to be taken. The Society was looking forward especially to the conference between the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Board, and of the Simplified Spelling Society. It had already been agreed that the Conference shall begin Sept. 4, 1911.

### PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS

In the absence of Dr. Melvil Dewey, a paper prepared by him, entitled "Our 1911 Campaign," was read, at the request of the President, by his son, Godfrey Dewey, a Local Agent of the Board.

The discussions of the meeting extended over an informal conference Tuesday evening, and two sessions on Wednesday. The proposed vocabulary of Simplified Spelling, the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, the means of furthering local action at various points, and the means of introducing the principle and practice of simplified spelling into schools, were themes of discussion.

Nearly all the members present took part, more particularly the delegates from the British Society, Mr. Archer and Professor Rippmann. Professor Rippmann presented the claims of fonetic teaching in English, showing how extensively the practis of fonetic teaching has been adopted among British teachers in the teaching of foren languages to English students, and the teaching of English to foren students. Within the last few years the situation has greatly changed, and the idea of the scientific teaching of English, by means of scientific notation, is becoming establisht in the minds of British teachers. This should be considerd in any proposals for the regulation of English spelling.

### THE FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER

Members of the Board and the Advisory Council and their guests, to the number of eighty-eight, attended the Fifth Annual Dinner, held, as usual, in the "Myrtle Room" of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, on the evening of Wednesday, April 6. "The Catalog of the Vittles," as it was entitled in plain English speech and spelling, was intersperst with appropriate quotations from the Greek, Latin, Italian, German, French, and English classics, from Aristotle, 322 B. C., to a Canadian newspaper of 1910. Several of these quotations help to diversify the pages of the present number of the BULLETIN.

Dr. Andrew D. White was the toastmaster of the occasion, and performd his duties with his accusomd tact and wit. In his introductory remarks, he congratulated his colleags and all the frends of simplification upon the progress of the cause, as shown by the increasing use of simplified spelling in schools and colleges, and the increasing favor it is meeting from the educational authorities. Such a meeting as this was in itself a proof that the educated public was becoming enlightend.

Among those invited or expected to be present, but who sent their regrets, were Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Dr. David Starr Jordan, and Dr. Alexander H. MacKay.

Mr. William Archer, of London, England, was the first speaker, and responded to the toast of "The Simplified Spelling Society," of which he is the Secretary. He was followd by Dr. Elmer E. Brown, of Washington, D. C., United States Commissioner of Education, who spoke on "Education and Simplification." Mr. Hudson Maxim, of New Jersey, inventor of high explosivs and

author of "The Science of Poetry," deliverd a spirited address on "The Rationality of Simplified Spelling." Dr. William H. Maxwell, of New York, the City Superintendent of Schools, made an important address on "The Need of Reform of Spelling in the Public Schools." Extracts from Dr. Maxwell's address will be found in this issue of the BULLETIN. The whole address has been publisht as a circular of the Simplified Spelling Board. Colonel Charles E. Sprague, the lerned and versatil Tresurer of the Board, struck the stony topic of "The Executiv Committee," and abundant streams of wit and humor gusht forth; and Dr. David Soloan, of Nova Scotia, principal of the Provincial Normal College, at Truro, reported on the progress of "Simplified Spelling in Canada."

A printed list of all the members and guests present was distributed, and was subsequently sent to the members of the Board and Council. The list is an interesting indication of the change in public opinion in regard to Simplified Spelling. A few years ago it would have been vain to expect the presence at a simplified spelling meeting of so many men and women who are prominent in the more popular walks of life; but now there are many persons of public distinction who are not afraid to risk their chances of continued favor with the public by appearing in the company of spelling reformers. This means that spelling reform is becoming fashionable. It is a danger which it has never encounterd before.

### A GINGERLY CONCESSION

Our orthography is not only an insuperable difficulty to foreigners, but an eternal source of dispute and perplexity to ourselves; and though it would be in vain to think of removing every intricacy that is constantly arising from indolence and caprice, yet that a considerable number may be remedied by a view of the general laws of formation, will be readily conceived by those who enquire into the origin of the difficulties complained of.—1775 WALKER, *A Dict. of the English language* . . . Rhyming, Spelling and Pronouncing, Introd. p. vi.

### MORE POWER TO IT!

For ye shall make your reformatiōns to begin at your elbowe, and so by degrees to flow to the extremities of the land.—1603 JAMES VI, *Basillikon Doron* (A Miscellany, ed. Morley, 1888, p. 121)

These two quotations and other quotations in this number, are taken from "The Catalog of the Vittles," distributed at the Fifth Annual Dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## PARAGRAPHS OF PROGRESS

The following items are condensed from the report of the Secretary, read at the fifth annual meeting:

### VOCABULARY OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLINGS

The Executive Committee has in hand the preparation of a Vocabulary of Simplified Spellings. For this purpose it has held meetings nearly every week. It has revised the Vocabulary in general to the end of the alphabet, and in detail to the end of D.

In the course of the work, the Committee ascertained the opinions of the individual members of the Board by frequent consultation and correspondence, and on January 10, 1911, it sent out to the members of the Board and Council a provisional set of rules arranged in alphabetic order, on which it requested the opinions of the members. In all but about ten of the 65 cases presented, the Board and Council by a majority of those voting equal, on the average, to about seven-eighths, approved the recommendations in the circular.

### ASSENT AND DISSENT

In some cases there was sufficient dissent, amounting to about one-eighth of the total membership, to induce the Executive Committee to set aside or postpone such proposals. The result is that of the 65 new cases in the circular, the Executive Committee, upon considering the returns, has decided to recommend the greater part for formal adoption. . . With a few inevitable exceptions, the rules so far adopted exclude all changes that can not be brought to a fairly stable form.

### A CONSTANT STREAM

The circulation of the existing publications of the Simplified Spelling Board has been steadily maintained. There is a constant stream of inquiries for circulars of information. These inquiries are promptly met by letter and circular. The many requests for circulars in quantity by teachers, lecturers, and Local Agents, are always complied with, and in every way up to the limit of the appropriation for publications, information about simplified spelling is diffused. . .

No new circulars of the regular series have been published since No. 24, "Simplified Spelling: A Letter to Teachers," September 15, 1909. This circular was sent, not only to all Signers and inquirers, but to more than 100,000 teachers whose names were contained in selected lists. It

has received many expressions of approval as a piece of convincing logic and persuasion. The Executive Committee has recently authorized the circulation of an additional 100,000 copies among other teachers, the desire being to reach, with this and similar circulars, all the teachers of the United States. If all the teachers of the United States could be so reached three or four times at intervals, the cause would be won in their minds. And where are the minds of the rest? [Since this report was presented a new circular No. 25 has been published. See p. 5.]

### ACTIVITY IN CANADA

The agitation in behalf of simplified spelling is continuing in Canada, under the skilful leadership of Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, a member of the Board, and of Dr. David Soloman, of Nova Scotia, and Dr. John Dearness, of Ontario, members of the Advisory Council. The subject is much discussed in the Canadian newspapers, and has been brought to the attention of many thousand Canadian teachers.

### AUSTRALIA WAITING

The idea is kept alive, and waiting, in Australia and New Zealand, where the Board has two representatives, Prof. Thomas G. Tucker, University of Melbourne, and Sir Robert Stout, the Chief Justice of New Zealand. We receive frequent inquiries from teachers and editors in Australia and New Zealand. The matter has been made one of the subjects of annual report by the Australian Natives' Association, a body which includes in its "Agenda" nearly every topic of political, social, or commercial importance.

### IN PARTIBUS INFIDELIUM

We also receive many inquiries from missionaries and teachers in China, India, South Africa, South America, Mexico, and other foreign lands. In case any member of the Board of Council should make a circumnavigation and visit any of these outlying countries, he could make opportunities for diffusing the idea of simplified spelling along the coasts of civilization. Dr. David Starr Jordan and Mr. Willis S. Paine have, in fact, done this within the last three years.

### CONFERENCE AT LONDON

As a result of the correspondence and consultation with the Simplified Spelling Society, mentioned in my report made at the last Annual Meeting, the Committee received May 6, 1910, from the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling

Society, a printed pamphlet cald, "Proposals for a Simplified Spelling of the English Language: Based on a Comprehensive Survey of the Current Spelling: By Walter Rippmann and William Archer."

This pamphlet, which was not intended for general circulation, contains tentativ proposals for the solution of the problem before us. The Executiv Committee considered this pamphlet in detail, and sent a full answer. The Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society responded, and our Committee sent a further reply. This led to the formal proposal to have a conference between the representatives of the two societies.

[It is now agreed that a conference shall take place in London, England, beginning September 4, 1911.]

In the opinion of the Executiv Committee, it is highly important that the Conference should be held; that the time of consultation should extend over several weeks; and that all suggestions from either side should receiv full consideration. In matters of this kind it is a waste of time and energy to reject or set aside any proposals or suggestions without some consideration or discussion. In any enterprize or reform, to say, before experience or trial, that this or that thing "can't be done," is to substitute profecy for experiment, and intellectual indolence for the pain of thought.

#### THE GIFT OF PREACHING

It is clear that if a larger number of members of the Board and Council should at least two or three times a year make manifest in their own community, in some personal way, that they approve the idea, it would promote the idea and the practis. The Committee is not disposed to lay too much stress upon the notion that one must always practis what he preaches. It is a great virtue in itself, to preach the right ideas; and many persons have a gift of preaching which is not accompanied by the gift of practis. The members of the Board and Council are, of course, a law unto themselves; but the Committee would willingly compound for a lack of practis by accepting in sted a fair abundance of preaching.

Yet practis also is good. Forget not that it was said in old time, when a question of good practis had been mentiond, "Go thou, and do likewise." It was not said, "Go *ye*, and do likewise." It was said "Go *thou*, and do likewise"; and the last state of that man was better than the first.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING CONFERENCE

The Simplified Spelling Board and the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain have agreed to appoint delegates to a Conference to be held in London, beginning Monday, September 4, 1911. The purpose of the Conference is to settle upon common principles and a policy of common action, and thus to inform and to unify public sentiment among teachers, scholars, and other persons interested, on the general subject.

The following delegates have been appointed on behalf of the Simplified Spelling Board:

CALVIN THOMAS, Ph.D., LL.D., Chairman of the Executiv Committee; professor of Germanic languages and literatures, Columbia University.

THOMAS R. LOUNSBURY, LL.D., L.H.D., President of the Simplified Spelling Board; emeritus professor of English, Yale University.

GEORGE HEMPL, Ph.D., LL.D., professor of Germanic philology, Leland Stanford University.

BRANDER MATTHEWS, LL.D., D.C.L., professor of dramatic literature, Columbia University.

BENJAMIN E. SMITH, A.M., L.H.D., editor of the Century Dictionary.

The delegates on the part of the Simplified Spelling Society have not yet been formally appointed, but it is expected that they will include:

WILLIAM ARCHER, M.A., author and critic; secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, London.

GILBERT MURRAY, M.A., Regius professor of Greek, Oxford University.

WALTER RIPPMMANN, M.A., professor of German, Queen's College, London; author of works on the German language and literature, and on fonetics.

#### WAITING FOR THE PRINCE

For surely we may still wonder and finde fault with our Orthography (or rather Cacography in deede) but it is impossible (in mine opinion) for any priuate man to amend it, vntill the learned Vniuersities haue determined vpon the truth thereof, & after the Prince also with the noble Counsell, ratefied and confirmed the same, to be publickly taught and vsed in the Realme.—1573 JOHN BARET, *An Alvearie or Triple Dictionarie, in Englishe, Latin, and French*, E.

#### BUT DO THEY?

Or bairns can read, they first maun spell,  
I learn'd this frae my mammy.

—1720-24 RAMSAY, *Poems* (1800), 1:274 (Jamieson)

## DR. MAXWELL'S ADDRESS

The Simplified Spelling Board publisht, May 25, 1911, a new circular entitled "The Need of Reform of Spelling in the Public Schools." The text of this circular was the address that Dr. William H. Maxwell, City Superintendent of Schools in New York, deliverd at the Fifth Annual Dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 5, 1911. This address was at once recognized as an important and weighty utterance, worthy of the attention of the entire educational public. Dr. Maxwell willingly consented to its publication by the Board. The circular has already been sent to all the Signers and to many thousand teachers and others thruout the United States, in more than 100,000 copies; and it will be circulated for a long time as one of the most important and definit expressions of professional opinion yet made in favor of a reform in spelling—for the benefit of the children in our public schools, of the foreners who are still flocking to our shores, and of the people whose increasing numbers require increasing reason and increasing economy in the methods of teaching and lerning the English language and the other branches of education.

With this circular was sent out a letter "To the Reader," calling attention to the progress made by the movement for the simplification of English spelling, and to the opportunity and the privilege that teachers, especially, enjoy to promote this movement, for the honor of their profession and for the sake of the children.

There was also sent out at the same time a copy of an editorial publisht in the *Ladies' Home Journal*, May 1, 1911, in which that periodical comes out with a positiv declaration that it is a necessity and a duty for the people to teach simplified spelling to the children for the sake of the coming generations. Copies of this circular and of the accompanying papers will be sent to any one upon application.

We print here some extracts from Dr. Maxwell's address:

By training and temperament I am opposed to simplified spelling. For a good bit over fifty years my eyes have become accustomed to the ordinary forms of our English words. I dislike the new forms. I abominate *thru* for *through*; and I dislike to write that any one has not *past* an examination. Why, then, do I advocate the use of simplified spelling in the schools?

### FOR THE WELFARE OF ALL

Because I feel certain that, when generally used, it will be found to be the cause of very great individual and

social uplift. Having become convinst that simplified spelling is necessary for individual improvement and progress among the masses of people in the vast heterogeneous population of our city, I feel it to be a duty which I owe, and which every man who desires the improvement of his fellow men, owes to society, to sink individual prejudices and to advocate that which is for the welfare of all.

### ENGLISH AS A FOREN TUNG

My attention was first directed to this subject by considering the difficulties which we experience in teaching the vast hordes of foreners who settle in this city, to read and to write the English language. . . It is not too much to say that to more than one-third of the pupils who enter the public schools of this city we must teach English, not as their native tung, but as a foren language. . .

### LERNING TO READ

The most important thing the American school has to do for these foren children, whom we are trying to convert into American citizens, or even for the children of American birth, is to teach them to read with insight and intelligence. . . Any device which enables us to save time in the teaching of reading becomes not only an individual but a social and national blessing. I regard the difficulties of lerning our arbitrary and unscientific ways of spelling words as the least part of the trouble. The real difficulty lies in lerning to read. Every teacher knows with what joy the child perceivs a new word which he can make out for himself by interpreting its fonetic elements, and with what consternation he beholds a word which, thru its disregard of fonetic rule or analogy, he is unable to pronounce until he is told. It has been claimd that fonetic spelling would save from one to two years of school time for the average child. Certain it is that German children are at least two years ahead of ours in their scholastic attainments. This is chiefly because the German language consists mainly of words that are speld as they are sounded. I am not certain that the introduction of complete fonetic spelling would save two years for our children, because there are other causes as well as arbitrary spelling that retard the progress of American children in school, as compared with German children. I am quite confident, however, that at least one year might be saved by the use of purely fonetic spelling. . .

### NO REASON, NO BELIEF IN REASON

The loss of time, bad as it is, is not the only evil which results to our public schools on account of our unscientific spelling. The memoriter process renderd necessary in lerning to read and to spell produces disbelief in reasoning as a means of lerning and a lack of confidence in inference. The result of falling into ridiculous mistakes by depending upon reasoning or analogy in spelling, is to make the child timorous about reasoning in arithmetic, geografy, history and grammar. The habit of depending upon memory exclusively in spelling engenders the habit of depending on memory in every other study, and so retards progress in teaching children to think for themselves. If we had textbooks in which every word could be sounded as it is speld, it is not too much to say that every one of the 700,000 children in the public schools of this city would be enabled to advance in his studies at least two grades beyond the point which he reaches now before he is compeld to leave school, and would have

larger powers of thinking and doing for himself. He would be more valuable to himself and more valuable to the community.

#### LEADERS OF PUBLIC OPINION

Not enough attention, I think, has been given to the means by which simplified spelling may find a place in the public schools. . . . The public schools aspire to lead rather than to follow public opinion. In a persuasive "Letter to Teachers" recently published as a circular of the Simplified Spelling Board, Professor Calvin Thomas has shown how teachers may begin to lead public opinion, by teaching and practising now what they will adopt some day.

When a reform has been introduced in the public schools, if it is a true reform, no matter how much opposition may be encountered at the start, public opinion invariably comes to its support in the end. Such has been the history of every great reform established in the public schools during the past half century. . . . All these movements have had the same history. Some reformer commensates the work. It proved its worth by actual trial. It began with the opposition of the public. It has proceeded with constantly increasing efficiency and has been accorded constantly increasing support.

#### SIMPLIFIED SPELLING NEXT

So it will be with simplified spelling. The first thing to do is to secure permission from the Board of Education to teach it in our schools. Then, if it will really accomplish what we believe it will accomplish—if it will save a year's time and labor in learning to read and write, if it will turn out our children better equipped with that power of reasoning understandingly which is necessary to every citizen in a land of self-government, if it will assist our children in learning to think and so to be self-reliant, if it will make of each child a more efficient human being—for that is the ultimate test to which every school reform must be brought—then the work in the schools will educate public opinion, it will receive the enthusiastic support of citizens of every class and kind. Simplified spelling will repeat the history of the kindergarten and the high school, of manual training and physical training.

#### PUT IT IN A SPELLING BOOK

No subject can make any substantial progress in elementary schools until it has been reduced to a servisable teaching form—in plain words, until it has been put into a good working textbook. . . . Every religion that has made great headway in the world has put its doctrines into a catechism for the young; every subject that is successfully taught in the schools has its textbook for the teacher and its textbook for the pupil; and so must it be with simplified spelling. Scoffers will laugh and point the finger of scorn when they hear of a project to have this society, that numbers so many great names, produce so apparently insignificant a thing as a spelling-book or a primer. They may even have learning enough to indulge in a hackneyed quotation, and tell us that the mountain has been in labor and brought forth a mouse. They forget that the textbook is the chief pillar of our modern civilization and that the mouse may gnaw the cords of ignorance and prejudice that bind the sleeping lion of our own city masses.

## THE SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

The latest publication of the Simplified Spelling Society, S. S. S. Pamphlet No. 9, April, 1911, consists of an article on "Simplified Spelling," by Professor Rippmann, reprinted from the *School World* for March and April, 1911. It is an able presentment of the subject, divided into parts entitled—1. The Present State of Our Spelling. 2. The Harm Done by the Present Spelling. 3. Objections to any Change in the Spelling. 4. Phonetic Spelling. 5. The Present Spelling with Diacritics. 6. Simplified Spelling.

We quote the final paragraph:

"This article will have done service if it induces the reader to give thought to the problem of simplified spelling. We are on the eve of important developments, and it is earnestly to be desired that all who are interested in the question should join the Simplified Spelling Society, of which Mr. William Archer is the secretary; the offices are at 44, Great Russell street, London, W. C. Among the life members of this society may be mentioned Sir Clifford Allbutt, Prof. Vernon Arnold, Rev. J. O. Bevan, Prof. Karl Breul, Prof. A. C. Brown, Sir Edward Clarke, Mr. Harold Cox, Prof. E. Dowden, Rev. Canon Duckworth, Dr. E. R. Edwards, Prof. O. Jespersen, Prof. Courtney Kenny, Prof. J. W. Mackail, Judge W. W. Morrow, Sir Frederick Pollock, Prof. J. P. Postgate, Sir Henry Reichel, Major Ronald Ross, Prof. W. W. Skeat, Prof. G. C. Moore Smith, Prof. W. J. Sollas, Prof. W. Somerville. Dr. Furnivall was the first honorary treasurer of the society. The members of the present committee include Prof. Gilbert Murray (president), Prof. A. S. Napier, Prof. H. C. K. Wyld, Mr. A. W. Pollard, and Dr. H. F. Heath. The Simplified Spelling Society will shortly undertake an active propaganda, and for this purpose it is desirable that its membership should be greatly increased. The subscription has been fixed so low (the minimum annual subscription is one shilling) that it will be no obstacle to the teachers to whom in particular I have addressed this appeal, which I earnestly hope will not fall on deaf ears."

Copies of this pamphlet and of the other publications of the Simplified Spelling Society may be had on application to the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society at the above address. Subscription to the Society is one shilling a year.

#### A WRECKLESS STATEMENT

As for orthography, every gentleman has his own: never mind spelling, I say, so long as the sense is right.—1841 THACKERAY, *Memoirs of Mr. Charles J. Yellowplush: The Diary of George IV (Miscellanies, 1856, 2:39)*.

## ACTIVITY IN ONTARIO

At the Annual Convention of the Ontario Teachers' Association in Toronto, April, 1911, Dr. J. G. Hume, professor of philosophy in the University of Toronto, and President of the Ontario branch of the Simplified Spelling Society, delivered an address entitled "Spelling Reform, or English as a Universal Language."

According to a newspaper report of the address, Professor Hume took the position that it was practicable for children, as well as foreigners, and to their advantage, to begin to read in a reasonably fonetic representation of words, and later to make a transition to the conventional form. He believed that if the dictionaries would agree on a uniform scientific method of respelling for pronunciation with the present unaltered alphabet, it would be easy to employ books printed in fonetic spelling for beginners — books that would be to the conventional literature what tonic sol-fa is to the universal staff notation of music. He held that the gain to literature that would follow from such a course made the simplification of English Spelling a matter of incalculable importance.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society was held at the University of Toronto, in April, 1911. Plans of operation for the coming year were drafted, and the following officers were elected:

President, Dr. J. G. Hume, professor of philosophy in the University of Toronto; Secretary-Treasurer, John Dearness, London; Corresponding Secretary, Alexander McQueen, London; Council: J. D. Lane, Dunnville; Robert Alexander, Galt; W. M. Metford, Toronto; Inspector D. R. Keys, Toronto; William Scott, Toronto; and Alexander Hamilton, Toronto.

The Ontario Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society has been sending to the executive committees of teachers' institutes in that Province a circular which we here reprint:

In the cause of Improved Spelling the Ontario Branch of the British Simplified Society will be pleased to aid any teacher to whom you assign the subject of Spelling to be taken at the next meeting of your Institute.

The examination of a large number of time-tables in the U. S. and a small number — ninety-seven — in Ontario showed that only one subject, namely Arithmetic, was given more time than Spelling. If Spelling and Reading are both taken into account — for children can rapidly learn to read words that are fonetically spelt — it is safe to say that the majority of English-speaking children are subject to a waste due to Spelling of

nearly two years' education. Indeed it is worse than mere waste of time to drill into children's memories, in despite of their reason, a multitude of contradictions such as that *our* is right in *laboring* but wrong in *laborious*, right in *honorable* but wrong in *honorary*, etc.

In Ontario, unfortunately, owing to the retrogressive spelling in its recent text-books, there is special need for discussion of this subject. Let us hope that out of evil good may come.

For pedagogic, economic, historical and national considerations the subject under notice is well worth a place on the program of the Institute meeting.

Address communications to ALEXANDER MCQUEEN, Corresponding Secretary, O. S. S. S. Victoria School, London Ont.

## SPELLING AND THE CHILD

A London periodical called *The Child; A Monthly Journal Devoted to Child Welfare*, edited by T. N. Kelynack, M.D., and published by John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd., 83-91 Great Titchfield street, Oxford street, deals with child problems, such as "Medical Supervision," "Athletics and School Life," "Motion Pictures," "Health and Holiday Resorts." One problem dealt with in the March number is "Child Welfare and the Rationalization of Spelling, by Rev. Prof. Skeat, D.Litt., LL.D., D.C.L." In this article (pages 507-510) Professor Skeat repeats his inditement of English spelling as a monstrous thing to be forced upon the helpless child. Professor Skeat argues for compassion, reason, rationalization. The article ends thus:

We conclude with a definite suggestion. At present children have to memorize this crude and monstrous mass of unrelated and unscientific spellings, for none of which is any reason even suggested to them. But it has been ascertained by experiment that *children can learn the present irrational system, if preceded by a rational one, in less time than the present irrational system alone*. It is alleged that about a year's work can be saved in this way. Why not repeat this important and valuable experiment on a larger and national scale? All interested in this question will do well to communicate with the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, 44 Great Russell street, London, W. C.

## SPELLING AND PRONUNCIATION

Persons who study our American speech cannot fail to notice that there is among us a tendency to pronounce words, and especially proper names, more in accordance with their orthography, and to make fewer exceptions to general rules, than in England — 1860 MARSH, *Lectures on the English language*, p. 453.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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## ARE YOU ONE?

This is the first number of the third volume of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN. Now is the time to subscribe or to renew your former subscription.

Copies of the BULLETIN are sent free to persons who ask for it and as a means of supplying certain information to inquirers. But the BULLETIN is not sent as a matter of course to Signers or to former subscribers. The subscription price is merely nominal, and it is charged chiefly to enable us to know who, among the great body of Signers, are especially interested, who are the constant reading and thinking supporters of the movement, and who are likely to exert their personal influence to promote the cause.

## “WHY NOT—?”

Thinking men, with the reforming spirit, meet faults, errors and obstacles in education, society, politics, and propose to reduce or to remove some of them. If they mean to execute what they propose, they should begin now to do what they think they can do now. They should have, indeed, a larger notion of what they can and will do next year, and in the years beyond; but they should intend to make some of their work tell *now*, next month, next week, today.

In this matter of regulating English orthography, for example, we propose to reduce *though* to *tho*. And then bobs up a Critic, and says: “Why not *do* for *dough*?” We propose *rime* in place of *rhyme*. And the Critic: “Why not *time* for *thyme*?” We propose *criticize* for *criticise*, and *advertize* for *advertise*. And Mr. Toots: “Why not *rize* for *rise* and *pize* for *pies*?” We drop *g* in *deign*, *reign*. “Why not *dain*, *rain*?” We drop *s* in *isle*. “Why not drop it in *demesne* and *Carlisle*?” We restore *dropped* to *dropt* and *dripped* to *dript*. “Why not *wipt* for *wiped*?”

In short, whenever we propose a little step to a public (the friends of simplified spelling) that will take only little steps, some one says: “Why not ten steps?” or: “Why not a step, or ten steps, on the other road?”

Now some of these “why not” suggestions are reasonable, tho not new. They will be carried out—some soon, some later. But some are ill-considered, and some are foolish. Pluck not the green fruit. Do not utter the first thing that comes to your mind, if it comes before information.

Gentle reader, ask yourself “Why not?” and you will see why not—and why. Take one step yourself, and you will see where to plant your foot for an other step. Of course, it would be quicker to step boldly, to jump, to land far ahead; but that would take us out of sight of the dear children whom we are teaching to walk. And he who says “Why not *that*?” when the thing to do is *this*, may do well to remember that the child who takes one step, goes farther than the man who sits at ease in Zion, and intends no step at all.

## NOT INTELLECTUALLY OPPOSED

Some of our friends are worried because the movement for simplified spelling is not oftener mentioned in the newspapers. It is true that any given reader, who reads usually no more than two newspapers, may not meet many references to the subject; but any one who reads many newspapers, or who receives from the press-clippers the daily snippets of a thousand newspapers, will testify that the subject is never left long alone. And yet some newspapers acknowledge that they habitually suppress discussion of simplified spelling; and it is known in other ways that some journals of great circulation have substituted for their former policy of vituperation what they perhaps regard as the more deadly policy of silence about the subject.

But this should not worry anybody. Such newspapers have no intellectual principles, and they will take up the subject again, if only out of carelessness; and any one who persists can persuade his newspaper to admit articles from time to time. All that the proprietors want is evidence that a considerable number of persons are interested in the matter. That is why they admit articles on the drama, on woman suffrage, on the single tax, on the north pole and the south pole, on the coronation, on hockey, squash,

prize-fights, divorces and other sports, and even on chess and religion. They will be equally hospitable to simplified spelling when they find that it interests many readers. Give up the notion that they are intellectually opposed to simplified spelling. They have not even thought about it yet. Witness the "editorials" they have printed

### LEADERS OF FASHION

The *Ladies' Home Journal* has come out in favor of Simplified Spelling. This is important news, for now the *New York Evening Post*, the *Outlook*, the *Dial*, and other journals which are still wandering timorously in the dim light of ancient custom, will take courage. When the *Ladies' Home Journal* shows the way both in fashion and in erudition, these other leaders of modern thought will be glad to follow.

### BOSTON INTELLIGENCE

The attitude of the average newspaper in regard to Simplified Spelling is well indicated by the *Boston Transcript* in the following paragraph:

"William Archer, secretary and critic of the Simplified Spelling Society, remarks: 'All the sense, all the logic, and all the learning are on our side.' As if that counted!"

The *Boston Transcript* is frequently asserted to be an intelligent and progressive newspaper. And we have heard a rumor that it is secretly in favor of Simplified Spelling. At any rate, the above paragraph is "wrote sarcastic," and indicates accurately the difficulty we have to meet. We may have all the sense, all the logic, and all the learning on our side; but these make but little impression upon the immensely greater quantity of nonsense, unreason, and ignorance on the other side. We can reach only the reasonable part of the public.

### CANADA THINKING

The action of the Imperial Educational Conference, which we report in another column, has made some impression even upon the press of the United States. The more liberal press of Canada has shown a much greater interest. There have been favorable comments in papers of Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Ontario. The *Acadian Recorder* of Halifax, hitherto hostile to the idea of simplification, the *Montreal Star*, which has not been enthusiastic, the *Morning Chronicle* of Halifax, and other Canadian papers,

have reported the resolutions in full, and added commendatory, or at least respectful, comment. The *Truro Daily News* treats the Conference as a further victory for simplified spelling. It says: "The stock of the Simplified Speller has gone up wonderfully within a few days; it will soon be above par and then the former opponents, if they are such in real earnest, will be crying out for the rocks and mountains to fall upon them and to hide them from the indignation of the boys and girls who have been unnecessarily tortured at school with the 'old time' attempt at spelling."

No. They will be claiming to be the only original pioneers in this great reform, and will take merit for giving it a "practical" direction.

### MILWAUKEE SPELLING

It is reported from Milwaukee that the school authorities intend to publish a "municipal spelling book." The report says: "It is based on reports by teachers in the various grades of the public schools. They are to note the words most frequently misspelled in their classes. It is expected that the use of the new book will set things right with directness and economy."

We shall see. It is a good sign that the school authorities are disposed to try new shuffles with the old spelling book.

### PAYING FOR A HEARING

There was a full-page advertisement of Simplified Spelling in the March numbers of the periodicals published by the University of Chicago.

A half-page advertisement of Simplified Spelling appeared in the April number of the *Atlantic Monthly*.

An advertisement of Simplified Spelling has also appeared in the "magazine sections" of three different groups of newspapers, in all 38, with a claimed circulation of nearly four million.

We advertise this important educational reform because many newspapers, and even some so-called "educational" journals, and organs of "uplift," refuse to give their readers any correct information about it. They know that correct information will be fatal to the antiquated custom and obscurantist policy which they favor. Some refuse to give *any* information about simplified spelling, thus depriving themselves of their customary privilege of actual misrepresentation. But they have their reward—silence also is misrepresentation.

## BIBLE SPELLING

A great many persons have, in this year of grace, 1911, made a great discovery. It is the 300th anniversary of the publication of that English translation of the Bible which is known as the "Authorized Version." The discovery is, that the earlier editions of the English Bible were not printed in the spelling of the present day; and that this spelling of the present day, which its champions have supposed to be ancient and sacred, used in fact by Saint James, the original translator of the English Bible, is, after all, a comparatively recent development. Any one can obtain a facsimile of the 1611 version of the English Bible, and see the facts for himself.

The truth is, as all scholars know, that the spellings of the English Bible, as of other English books, were changed, as a matter of course, from decade to decade, without opposition by stolid reactionaries, until they became stereotyped about the middle of the 18th century. But some words, for example, *plough* and *plow*, *judgement* and *judgment*, *steadfast* and *stedfast*, have appeared in variant forms in editions of the English Bible up to the present day.

## MEDIEVAL AND MODERN

The latest number of the *Publications of the Modern Language Association*, Vol. 26, No. 1, March 1911, contains a pleasing variety of spellings. One paper deals with "*Shul* and *shal* in the Chaucer Manuscripts." Other papers deal with medieval poems, and legends in various languages and spellings. One is a reprint of the "*Queenes Majesties Entertainment at Woodstocke*", reprinted in the original spelling of 1585. Then there are old English poems by the Duke of Suffolk about 1340, which are not speld according to Webster's Dictionary. Then there is a long document in medieval Latin speld in a manner even more medieval than that affected for English by the opponents of modern progress. Then, finally, in the report of the "Proceedings for 1910," a recent report of recent events, written by the editors themselves, the responsible officers of the Modern Language Association, the spelling is considerably modernized. For example, on page xxii we find the spellings *sistematic*, *folloing*, *shal*, *observ*, *forein*, *executiv*, *program*, *wer*, and so on.

But of course there is one fatal objection to all this. These men, the leading scholars of the Modern Language Association, know what they

are doing. They understand the subject, understand even English spelling. It is well known that all such men are bent on destroying the foundations of English literature and wiping out all the precious traces of etymology. Etymology, as all opponents of simplified spelling are aware, consists chiefly of traces of *gh* and *ph*; and the ruthless filologists, who regard these things as the mere straws and toys of the filological kindergarten, and are willing to "destroy" them—that is, to put them on the shelf—do not realize that in so doing they are taking away from the opponents of simplified spelling the tresured total of their erudition. These cherishers of ancient corruptions are in the predicament of the orthodox old lady who was strong on "total depravity," and said, "Take away my total depravity, and you take away my religion."

## THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON

The Simplified Spelling Board has suffered an other great loss in the deth of Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, May 9, 1911. Distinguisht alike in literature and in fields of social effort, he fild his life with action and with ideas that cald to action, that led to action, and that carried mankind onward and upward. Col. Higginson's years were more than four score and seven; but they did not dim his vision of life. Joining the Simplified Spelling Board at its organization, he took a constant interest in its work, and responded promptly to all calls for speech or action. One of the last letters he wrote was to express his regret that he could not attend the Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board in April.

Colonel Higginson regarded the simplification of English spelling as a proper and necessary improvement in the methods of education and the customs of writing. Tho he was aware that some of his contemporaries, who profest an equal interest in literature, were not enlightend on this point, he was entirely serene in the knowl-edge. It was enuf for him that he understood the subject, and saw it in its true bearings. It is fortunate that the last representativ of that remarkable group of New England men who fought for the emancipation of mankind from the shackles of body, mind and soul, should have livd to express in the twentieth century what he and others lernd in the university of nineteenth century thought.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, in a letter written a few years before his deth, exprest his interest

in the movement for the reform of spelling, and said that one of the reasons why he desired to return in a hundred years was to see the changes in spelling that would by that time have taken place. Colonel Higginson lived to see some of those changes taking place, and was able to foresee with the eye of scientific vision what is going to take place in the next ten or the next twenty years.

## A HEARING FOR SPEECH

The Colorado State Normal School has introduced into its curriculum a course in "General Fonetics," which is to be under the supervision of Professor A. Gideon, the head of the Modern Language Department of the School. It is announced that "in putting this course into the School Dr. Gideon expects to make some application to the work of the elementary school, and those who attend the lectures will be able in the end to pass an intelligent judgment upon the merits of the simplified spelling system."

This action adds one more to the few centers, in the United States, of direct instruction in the nature of speech as the foundation of the scientific study of any language. It is also another recognition of the hitherto disputed claim that it is possible and proper to study the foundations of the English language, and proper also to record the results in black and white by means of letters and types. In a nation where the minutest study of everything else is becoming more and more popular; where the life-history, and even the emotions, of clams and crawfish, of pigs and poultry, are the subjects of endowed departments and chairs, it will not seem strange, in a few years, that some attention, and even some money, should be devoted to the ascertainment and diffusion of the actual facts concerning the spoken language of the people.

Other normal schools will follow the example of this Colorado Normal School. While provision should be made for full and exact study of fonetics, some good will be accomplished even by a short course of study in this subject. It will, of course, have a beneficial effect upon the movement for the simplification of English spelling. But it will also have a beneficial effect upon the speech of our people, leading to a more accurate, a more lucid, and a more graceful utterance. Accurate speech directed by accurate minds for the purpose of giving accurate instruction and producing definite action toward definite

ends, will surely result in improving the thoughts and actions of the people.

Every teacher should know that accurate and definite work in any branch of study will be repaid by actual improvement, and by an increase in the values and graces of life.

## HOW TO TEACH ERRORS

In the *Journal of Educational Psychology* for May, 1911, Vol. 2, No. 5, pp. 241-252, there is an able article on "The Scientific Study of the Teaching of Spelling." It gives the result "of an experiment in the teaching of homonyms," and it states other "Problems for experimentation," namely: "(1) Formal *vs.* incidental teaching; (2) Class study *vs.* independent study; (3) Isolated *vs.* contextual spelling; (4) Grouping of words in lists; (5) Syllabication; (6) Number of words for a spelling lesson."

The article avoids any mention of the fact that there are some defects in English spelling which may explain some of the difficulties in teaching and learning it. It seems to be the aim of some psychological experts in education and in other fields to spend their minds on ascertaining the most ingenious ways of learning and teaching the orthodox errors of the age, rather than on ways of removing the errors themselves.

## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

John Wanamaker of Philadelphia continues to set John Wanamaker of New York an excellent example of simplified spelling. The Philadelphia John, in his exciting advertisements, spells *thru*, *tho*, *thoro*, *thorofare*, *merchandize* and the like.

The New York John, who once did the same, apparently can not stand the breathless pace set by the Philadelphia John; but we have no doubt that in time the two gentlemen will agree. The thing is becoming scandalous. We in New York simply *must* catch up to Philadelphia.

## "SOME UNCERTAINTY"

Sir Thomas Smith her Majesty's Secretary not long since, a man of great learning and judgment, occasioned by some uncertainty of our Orthography, though it seemed grounded upon *Sound*, *Reason*, and *Custom*, laboured to reduce it to certain heads; Seeing that whereas of Necessity there must be so many letters in every tongue, as there are simple and single sounds, that the Latine letters were not sufficient to express all our simple sounds.—1605 CAMDEN, Remaines concerning Britaine (1623), p. 27.

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE IMPERIAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

An Imperial Education Conference, attended by officially appointed delegates from all the provinces of the British Empire, was held in London, in April and May, 1911. This Conference discussed at public and private sessions all the present problems of education, with a view to evoking and concentrating opinion and directing action of the educational officials and of the educated public throughout the British Empire. A "Summary" of the proceedings, a volume of considerable size, has been printed.

Two paragraphs of that Summary refer to the action of the Conference upon the proposals to regulate and simplify the spelling of the English language. We quote the paragraphs in question:

23. The Conference also discussed the attitude of Departments of Education to the more important movements in favor of the simplification, improvement, and uniformity of English spelling, an item on the Agenda Paper suggested by Dr. E. R. Edwards, one of the Secondary School Inspectors of the Board of Education, on "English Spelling and Spelling Reform", and a paper by Dr. MacKay (Nova Scotia) on the question whether Education Departments should tolerate any reformed spelling. These papers, together with a *résumé* of a speech by Dr. Viljoen (Union of South Africa), are printed in Part II of this Report (see pages 207-228).

24. At the conclusion of the discussion on the simplification of English spelling the Conference unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

"(XI) That this Conference is of the opinion that the simplification of spelling is a matter of urgent importance in all parts of the Empire, calling for such practical steps in every country as may appear most conducive to the ultimate attainment of the end in view—the creation, in connection with the subject, of an enlightened public opinion and the direction of it to the maintenance, in its purity and simplicity among all English-speaking peoples, of the common English tongue.

"(XII) That the foregoing resolution be appended with an explanatory note to the printed copies of the papers on the subject read to the Conference on Friday last by Dr. E. R. Edwards, H. M. I., and Dr. MacKay, and be included in the Report of the Conference."

Thus for the first time the leading educational officials of the British Empire have put themselves upon record as believing that the simplification of English spelling is a matter of urgent importance, calling for practical steps toward the solution of the problem and for the formation of an enlightened public opinion to enforce the solution that the educators may finally reach.

There have been many utterances of educational bodies of the United States to the same effect. The reader may decide for himself which

is the most weighty—the deliberate opinion of the leading educators of the British Empire and of the United States, or the flippant utterances of casual newspaper writers.

## FROM LONDON, BY CABLE

The action of the Imperial Education Conference, in favor of the simplification of English spelling became known to some American newspapers; and the journals of May 20 and 21 contained a cable dispatch as follows:

### BRITISH APPROVE SIMPLE SPELLING IMPERIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE URGES ADOPTION OF AMERICAN IDEA

LONDON, May 20.—The Imperial Education Conference now sitting in London under the chairmanship of Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Education, has agreed that to simplify spelling is a matter of urgent educational importance. It recommends the adoption of the new method as fast as is practicable and the publication of the newly spelled words by the Board of Education every five years.

Leading authorities on the English language, both in Britain and the United States, were frequently quoted in support of the reform during the debate. Enthusiasts declared that each new list of spellings issued by the board would be looked for by millions of English speaking persons with far more interest than are the Paris fashions today.

Others asserted their firm belief that constant changes in spelling are likely to make confusion worse confounded.

## FRANKLIN'S OPINION

The objection you make to rectifying our alphabet, "that it will be attended with inconveniences and difficulties," is a natural one; for it always occurs when any reformation is proposed, whether in religion, government, laws, and even down as low as roads and wheel carriages. The true question then, is not whether there will be no difficulties or inconveniences, but whether the difficulties may not be surmounted; and whether the conveniences will not, on the whole, be greater than the inconveniences. In this case the difficulties are only in the beginning of the practice; when they are once overcome, the advantages are lasting. In short, whatever the difficulties and inconveniences now are, they will be more easily surmounted now, than hereafter; and some time or other, it must be done, or our writing will become the same with the Chinese, as to the difficulty of learning and using it.—1768 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Letter to Miss Stevenson, Sept. 28 (Works, ed. Bigelow, 1887, 4:198).

## ANXIOUS FOR INFORMATION

Mr. William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, address the Bristol Branch of the English Association at Bristol, March 3, 1911. The *Western Daily Press*, of March 6, in its notis of the meeting, says: "The members of the association, finding how thoroughly he had studied his subject, were anxious for information on the details of a system which should embody the necessary improvements."

The *Press* continues: "On the side of reform were Professor Skemp, and Dr F. E. T. Campbell. Miss George, Mr Preston Weir, Mrs McBain, Mr Douglas, Miss Vincent, and Miss D. Earle took part in the debate, and Professor Leonard was prepared to support the æsthetic argument in favour of the present system."

## A GERMAN VIEW

A frend in Berlin narrates that, when one of the students in a high school recently referd to simplified spelling in the class-room, he was "bro't up short" by the professor with the statement: "That's American. We study English."

## TWO TASKS

"I hav red this book from beginning to end with interest and profit. The record is truthfully told and we see beyond all question that the path of man is ever upward and onward."

This is part of the introduction by Mr. Andrew Carnegie to "The Peace Problem—The Task of the Twentieth Century," by Frederick Lynch, New York, 1911. Mr. Carnegie writes as he thinks, and spells as he thinks. At a recent dinner of the New York Peace Society, Mr. Carnegie is reported to have said that next to the cause of Peace the most important was the cause of Simplified Spelling.

The titles of the chapters of Mr. Lynch's book suggest that the two problems are in-fact of the same nature:

"I. The Task of the Twentieth Century"—some years will be required for Simplified Spelling.

"II. All the World in One Room"—all the world with one alfabet. Two visions may come true.

"III. The Substitution of Reason for Force"—the substitution of reason for custom.

"IV. The United World Against the Common Foes"—the united educated public against the common foes, ignorance and prejudis.

"V. International Hospitality"—international intelligibility.

"VI. Many Other Signs of the New Unity"—more signs of uniformity.

"VII. The Obstacles in the Way"—this glorious prospect is always before Simplified Spelling.

"VIII. The Immediate Task"—behold it! And then go and do it.

## SPEECH OF DR. ELMER E. BROWN

### AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Elmer E. Brown, the United States Commissioner of Education, spoke at the annual dinner, April 5th. Dr. Andrew D. White introduced him as "a scientific educator, a worthy successor to our late colleg, Dr. William T. Harris, in the highest educational position in the United States Government." Dr. Brown said that it gave him great plesure to be present at the dinner, and to speak on the topic of "Simplified Spelling and Education." He said, in part:

"We have placed the subject of Spelling in our courses of study in the group cald 'English.' It belongs, rather, to the group cald 'Manners and Morals,' for good spelling is simply good manners in English, and bad spelling is simply bad manners. Our manners have been undergoing many changes in the past two generations, and the changes have been in the direction of simplification. We used to say, 'I humbly bid your worship good afternoon,' whereas today we would say simply 'good afternoon,' the latter being perfectly good manners in the period in which we live. So it will be with Simplified Spelling. Our present spelling, irregular, anomalous, unreasonable as it is, is a custom, an institution, a system that is regarded as good manners. We have now to lead public opinion away from the present custom in spelling to a better custom; to make Simplified Spelling, and not antiquated spelling, good manners and good form."

Dr. Brown said he regarded the movement for Simplified Spelling as a part of the general movement to make education definit and effectiv, both for the development of the child, for the making of good citizens, and for the general welfare of the country. Like all other reforms, he said, including reforms in education, the movement to bring about a rational spelling encounters opposition—not the reasond opposition of educated men or of educators who have made a study of the subiect, but the opposition of custom, of convention, of prejudis. This has also been the fate of other movements that run

counter to custom, and it was, he thought, natural that it should be so. Custom, in a civilized society, is good manners, good form, 'the proper thing.' But custom changes from one generation to another, and what was good manners in one generation is not regarded as good manners in another.

Dr. Brown concluded his remarks by saying:

"We look to you to make good manners of the simple spelling. Continue without ceasing the propaganda you have so successfully begun. It is of the utmost importance that this propaganda shall be without any relaxation. You are simply trying to bring our manners in the spelling of the English language, which have dropt behind, up to date. Spelling is going to keep on changing to the end of the story, and the idea now is simply to bring it up to the point where change can begin to take its normal course. I am in the warmest sympathy with the representatives of the Simplified Spelling Board in the movement which they have undertaken."

Since the annual meeting Dr. Brown has been elected Chancellor of New York University, in succession to Dr. Henry M. McCracken. Thus the two great universities of New York City are presided over by two distinguished advocates of simplified spelling, Dr. Brown and Dr. Butler. Cornell University, however, lags behind. Only one hundred and fourteen of its professors have declared themselves for simplification of spelling. The president is perhaps waiting for a more important expression of opinion.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL CHANGES

A revised (fifth) edition of Circular No. 17, containing the names and addresses of the Advisory Council, was published on Feb. 14. The revised circular contains 219 names, and includes the following who had been elected to membership since the issue of the previous edition:

**WILLIAM ALBERT NITZE**, Ph.D., professor and head of department of Romance languages and literatures, University of Chicago.

**LAURENCE FOSSLER**, A.M., professor of Germanic languages and literatures, University of Nebraska.

**WILLIAM GUILD HOWARD**, A.M., assistant professor in German, Harvard University; and Treasurer of The Modern Language Association.

**WILLIAM HENRY SMILEY**, A.M., principal of East Side High School, Denver, Colo.

**FRANCIS WILSON**, actor and manager; New York, N. Y.

Since the establishment of the Advisory Council ten members have died, one has resigned, and one has been transferred to the Board. From the present fifth edition we must now omit two names of men removed by death—those of Professor **EDWIN FAXON BACON**, of the Oneonta Normal School, Oneonta, N. Y.; and Professor **A. MARSHALL ELLIOTT**, of Johns Hopkins University.

In the next edition of the list will appear the following names of new members of the Council, elected in April 1911:

**HILL M. BELL**, A.M., LL.D., president of Drake University; 1091 Twenty-sixth street, Des Moines, Iowa.

**FREDERICK E. BOLTON**, director and professor of education, State University of Iowa; Iowa City, Iowa.

**WILL GRANT CHAMBERS**, M.Sc., A.M., professor of education, University of Pittsburgh; Pittsburgh, Penn.

**JOHN B. KNOEPFLER**, professor of German and French, Iowa State Teachers' College; Cedar Falls, Iowa.

**SAMUEL ADAMS LYNCH**, A.M., professor of English, Iowa State Teachers' College; Cedar Falls, Iowa.

**STEPHEN S. STOCKWELL**, M.D., Ph.D., superintendent of schools; 2021 Evans street, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

### A BIT OF FABIAN TACTICS;

OR, THE WAITING REFORMER AND HIS PUBLIC

Trooper Brown of the British Territorials was "green." His horse, likewise unaccustomed to war, seemed from its appearance and general structure to have been not very long ago a dray-horse. But it was a wise animal, and had learned through experience that to keep one's mouth shut is to avoid many troubles. Much practice had enabled it to keep its mouth shut very tight.

On the first morning parade in Trooper Brown's first camp the Lieutenant rode down the line of his company.

"All the men turned out, Sergeant-Major?" he queried.

"Yessir," said the Sergeant-Major, "all except Trooper Brown. He's waiting for his horse to yawn, so's he can slip the bit in, but the worst of it is, sir, the brute doesn't seem to be a bit tired."—1910 *Ontario Newspaper*, June.

### ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Esdras wrote in new manner of writing of letters that were more easy for to write, and more easy for to pronounce, and therefore was he called a swift writer.—c. 1460 **CAPGRAVE**, *Chronicle of England* (1858), p. 49.

## LIST OF LOCAL AGENTS

The functions of the Local Agents of the Simplified Spelling Board were stated in the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN for March, 1911, page 44. As promised at that time, we print here the names and addresses of the Local Agents as they will appear in a new edition of the Circular "Local Agents," soon to be published.

These Agents are valuable aids in the promotion of the cause. They are entitled to receive copies in quantity of all the publications of the Board, and they exert themselves in many ways, according to their judgment, to bring Simplified Spelling to the attention of the community in which they live. Many of them are recent graduates of colleges, starting out in professional life, who find the office interesting as a vent for their superfluous activities or as an intellectual hobby.

To young men of ambition and enterprise the office opens a gratifying opportunity to extend their personal and professional acquaintance; and any person who likes intellectual activity, either for its own sake or for the public welfare, may find in this work an agreeable avocation from the daily round of conventional things.

Any one who desires to take up the work of a Local Agent may make application of the Board: and, if it appears that he has the necessary qualifications and opportunities, he may receive an official appointment. The initials A. C. indicate that the Local Agent is also a member of the Advisory Council.

## ALABAMA

R. E. WESTBROOK, principal of Westbrook Business College; Birmingham, Ala.

## CALIFORNIA

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Mrs. ALICE PARK, 611 Gilman st., Palo Alto, Cal.

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HARRY E. TULLAR, principal of schools; Waucoma, Ia.

## KENTUCKY

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C. B. MARTIN, M.A., professor of Latin, Furman University; Greenville, S. C.

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HENRY D. HESSE, 13th District School, No. 1, Milwaukee, Wis.

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P. H. THIBAUDEAU, B.A., inspector of schools; Lacombe, Alberta, Can.

## NOVA SCOTIA

DAVID SOLOAN, LL.D., principal of Provincial Normal College; Truro, Nova Scotia, Can. A. C.

## ONTARIO

JOHN DEARNESS, M.A., vice-principal of Normal School, and professor in Western University; London, Ontario, Can. A. C.

## CUBA

ALFRED B. WESTRUP, Ph.D., Neptuno 31, Havana, Cuba.

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. III

DECEMBER 1911

No. 3

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## SEVEN NEW MEMBERS

The Simplified Spelling Board announst on September 25, 1911, the election of seven additional members, namely :

RICHARD E. BURTON, Ph.D., professor of English literature, University of Minnesota ; Minneapolis, Minn.

NATHANIEL BUTLER, A.M., D.D., LL.D., professor of education, University of Chicago ; Chicago, Ill.

GEORGE O. CURME, A.M., professor of Germanic philology, Northwestern University ; Evanston, Ill.

JOHN R. KIRK, A.B., LL. D., president of State Normal School ; Kirksville, Mo.

CHARLES MCKENNY, A.M., president of the Wisconsin State Normal School ; Milwaukee, Wis.

Z. X. SNYDER, Ph.D., president of the State Normal School of Colorado ; Greeley, Col.

DAVID M. SOLOAN, B.A., LL. D., principal of the Provincial Normal College ; Truro, Nova Scotia.

Three of the new members are professors in large Universities, three are presidents of large Normal Schools in the United States, and one is principal of a Normal School in Canada.

The election of these men to membership in the Simplified Spelling Board marks the progress which the cause of Simplified Spelling has made in the educational world. The Board now includes among its forty-five members sixteen university professors, three university presidents (two retired), six presidents of Normal Schools and two superintendents of education. The Advisory Council is five times as large and five times as rich in educational experts and leaders.

Six of these newly elected members of the Board become members of the North Central

Branch, which has undertaken to extend the movement for simplified spelling by direct and concentrated work in the North Central States.

## LONDON CONFERENCE

A Conference between the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Board and the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain was held in London, at University College, September 4-12, 1911. The delegates on the part of the Simplified Spelling Board were :

Professor CALVIN THOMAS (Chairman of the Executiv Committee), of Columbia University.

Professor JAMES W. BRIGHT, of Johns Hopkins University.

Professor CHARLES H. GRANDGENT, of Harvard University.

Professor GEORGE HEMPL, of Leland Stanford University.

Professor BRANDER MATTHEWS, of Columbia University.

The delegates on the part of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain were :

Dr. F. R. EDWARDS, H. M. Inspector of Schools.

Professor H. STANLEY JEVONS, of the University of South Wales.

DANIEL JONES, Lecturer on Phonetics, University College.

Professor GILBERT MURRAY, of Oxford Univ.

Professor WALTER RIPPMAUN, of Queen's College and University College.

Mr. WILLIAM ARCHER, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, acted as Secretary of the Conference, with a vote.

The Conference discust the general subject of simplified spelling, the different plans, and the different methods of approaching the public ; but most of the time was given to the discussion of

the details of the "Proposals for a Simplified Spelling of the English Language," drawn up by the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society in 1910. These Proposals have been the subject of considerable negotiation and correspondence with the Executive Committee. They begin thus: "The following suggestions for a systematic simplification of English spelling proceed on the fundamental assumption that no simplification can be of much practical value which is *not* systematic—which does not reduce the existing chaos to something like a cosmos." To this end the Proposals set forth a scheme of notation, based on the plan of choosing for each sound either the most common notation in the ordinary spelling, or one of two or three very common notations. The notation for the short vowels was the conventional one—*bat, bet, bit, but, good*, etc. In regard to the long vowels and the diphthongs, the Proposals departed widely from the historical and filological basis, using the vowel letters, in conventional digraphs, just as they stand in some familiar fash of the present spelling. Thus, the Proposals included *ai* as in *bait*; *ee* as in *beet*; *ie* as in *die*; *oe* as in *doe*; *oo* as in *pool*; *ue* as in *due*, etc.; these digraphs reverting in open syllables (with some exceptions), to a single letter, as in *nation, se, seing, go, going, du*, etc.

It was the opinion of the American delegates that the difficult problem of a satisfactory notation for the long vowels could best be solved, in some cases at least, by the introduction of new letters; in others, perhaps, by the use of diacritic marks. But as no alternative scheme had been prepared on these lines, and as there was thus no opportunity, at this conference, for a comparative study of the two theories in their practical application, it was decided to make no recommendation at present with regard to this particular fash of the spelling problem.

The Conference agreed, however, upon some modifications of the Proposals, and it adjourned with the understanding that the negotiations should continue, with a view of reaching a closer agreement, after the matter shall have been widely discussed, both in America and in England.

In the mean time, the Simplified Spelling Society has revised and improved the proposed notation, and has set it forth in an eight-page pamphlet, "A Scheme of Simplified Spelling Briefly Described." The Society will proceed to print pamphlets and specimens, hold meetings, establish branches, and publish a journal. Address the Secretary, William Archer, M.A., 44 Great Russell Street, London, England.

## FASHION NEWS

Mr. William Henry Baker, of Cleveland, Ohio, the author of a "Dictionary of Engraving," has put forth a "Dictionary of Men's Wear, embracing all the terms (so far as could be gathered) used in the men's wear trades expressive of raw and finished products and of various stages and items of production," etc. This well-printed volume contains much information that reaches beyond the trades concerned. It is, moreover, as the title-page indicates, improved and enlivened by some simplified spelling. The author inserts this pathetic "Memorandum":

"Please don't be provoked by the use of 'simplified spelling.' It helped me to cram much more in the compass of this book than could have been done with the use of some of our superannuated forms. Besides, simplification is the order of the day, and we might as well get used to it, every one of us. And, again, only the less jarring and those surest of early adoption have been used; there's a concession to conservatism and 'the conventions.'"

## THE PATH OF REASON

*The Normalite*, a monthly magazine published by the State Normal School of Peru, Nebraska, has come out for simplified spelling. In the October number our latest circular, No. 25, "The Need of Reform of Spelling in the Public Schools," being the address of Dr. Maxwell, City Superintendent of Schools of New York, is printed nearly in full (pp. 6-9). It is followed by the "rules of simplified spelling" (pp. 7-10), and by an editorial (p. 14), from which we copy these two paragraphs (correcting some oversights in print):

"It is said that over in forested Africa the natives' paths from place to place are unreasonably crooked. This is explained by the fact that, when a tree falls across a path, the natives go around the tree; and continue in the path thus made, long after the tree itself has decayed and ceased to be an obstruction. It is enough for the natives to know that their fathers trod that way.

"Not very different is it in the matter of our English spelling. We have all been Africans, more or less, in our orthography. When a straitening of the orthographic paths is proposed, a popular appeal is always made to prejudice. Reason is all absolutely on the side of the proposed reform. If only enough of us cut across, we can soon make a path such as others will be willing to follow. Shall we be led by prejudice or reason? The *Normalite* has faith in the rule of intelligence among the teachers of Nebraska, and therefore proposes to follow the path of reason."

But alas, if this sort of thing prevails, the path of reason will lose its charm of solitude.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

James W. Crabtree, late State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Nebraska, has been elected a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board. He has also been recently elected President of the State Normal School at River Falls, Wis. This makes two presidents of Normal Schools in Wisconsin who are members of the Simplified Spelling Board or of the Advisory Council, namely, Charles McKenny and James W. Crabtree.

The *Pittsburgh School Bulletin*, for October, 1911, vol. 5, No. 12 reprint (pages 10-14), contains Dr. Maxwell's address on "The Need of Reform of Spelling in the Public Schools," as printed in circular No. 25 of the Simplified Spelling Board. The *Pittsburgh School Bulletin* is the organ of the Pittsburgh Teachers' Association, of which Miss Katherine F. Reed is President, and Miss Clarissa A. Moffitt the General Secretary and Managing Editor.

On September 6, 7, and 8, circulars of information and cards were sent by the Simplified Spelling Board to the school trustees of South Carolina, about 5,500 in number, the addresses being taken from a manuscript list furnished by Professor Patterson Wardlaw, of the University of South Carolina. Quantities of the cards sent have been returned signed by the trustees or their friends, who took occasion thus to signify their approval of the movement for rational spelling. As many of the teachers in the schools of South Carolina are Signers, they will welcome this indication that in time they may be permitted, by authority of the trustees and school superintendents, to teach the simpler spellings to their pupils.

The *Quarterly Journal of the University of North Dakota* is devoted to literary, filological, and scientific essays and reviews, written chiefly by members of the faculty. It is edited by a committee of the faculty, the managing editor being Prof. A. J. Ladd. In accordance with the views of education and science which prevail in the faculty, the *Quarterly* now appears in simplified spelling according to the whole list of simplifications in spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. As one turns the pages he encounters simplified forms in every paragraph. Not only *tho*, *altho*, *thru*, *program*, etc., but *dropt*, *cald*, *fauld*, *renderd*, *conceiv*, *definit*, *askt*, *hart*, *hed*, *tung*, *dout*, *heviest*, *justis*, etc.

On September 5, copies of Circular No. 25, "The Need of Reform of Spelling in the Public Schools," by Supt. William H. Maxwell, together with the "Letter to the Reader," were sent, thru the Department of Supplies for the Public Schools of New York City, to all the 17,562 teachers in the five boros of the city. Many hundreds of the teachers of the New York City schools have signed the card agreeing to use in their personal correspondence the simpler spellings recommended by the Board. These teachers, and others who may become interested in the movement as they become better informed about it, will teach the modern spellings when they are officially permitted to do so. It may be doubted, even now, whether all the teachers in New York City are keeping their pupils in ignorance of the simplified spellings. And the pupils, many of whom already simplify by nature, will soon learn to simplify by principle.

In the *Bulletin of the University of South Carolina*, No. 28, containing the program of "The Extension Lectures for Communities Throughout the State," twenty-one lecturers are named. Among them is Professor Patterson Wardlaw of the Advisory Council, who includes in his five lectures one on "The Reasonable Man," and, naturally enough, a later one on "The Simplifications of English Spelling."

On November 28, eighty-eight students in the School of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois signed the promise to use simplified spellings.

## A PATTERN FOR ALL

Professor L. H. Elwell, of Amherst College, has printed a book, "The Gravestone Records of Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vermont; copied and verified 1908-10, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1911." The records are given exactly as they appear on the gravestones. What simplified spelling they contain is, therefore, historic and fixed. The preface and introduction are printed in simplified spelling, according to the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board. The very first words of the Preface, even before the title, are "[simplified spelling]." We quote the following sentence from the "Introduction," in the spelling that is used by the author: "Mr. Niles lived to the age of 105 years; and on the day he was 100 years old he took his sithe into meadow, and after mowing a swath said, 'There, boys, is a pattern for you.'"

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles E. Sprague, Treasurer; No. 701 Sixth avenue.

Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

5 cents a copy; 10 cents a year.

Entered at the Post Office, New York, as second-class matter.

## DO

A very well-known advocate of simplified spelling suggests that we tell "a few of the best informed and reformed men that the best they can possibly do in any other direction to hasten the reform is not equal to *using it themselves*. That always counts."

This is a hard saying. It is so much more easy and pleasant to "approve" simplified spelling than to use it, that the most sagacious men adopt that course. This relieves their intellectual conscience, and makes no demand upon their other conscience. To expect them to do what they approve is like expecting a Christian to observe the Ten Commandments, or a statesman to carry out the promises of his platform or of his pre-election speeches. It is a great thing to preach. It is also a great thing to practise. Any one who applies either art is doing something for his cause. It is given unto some men to be eloquent, and unto other men to work. Blessed is that man who can be the one and do the other.

## REMINDERS

We remind our readers that we do not expect to send them notice when their subscriptions expire. The price of subscription is so small that a separate reminder to each subscriber would be disproportionately expensive. When your subscription expires, the BULLETIN will not continue to come as a matter of course. If you miss the expected numbers, subscribe again (ten cents); and the editor will be glad to know by this reminder that you are interested (ten cents). It must be said of our readers that they appear to be greatly content with the BULLETIN. Few write to us about it, but those who do write, express great satisfaction. We must assume that all the other subscribers are equally happy.

## HERE TO STAY—OR TO GO ON

The *Nebraska State Journal* of Lincoln, Neb., has an editorial, September 14, 1911, which begins thus:

"Simplified spelling is here to stay. There is no getting away from it, and why should we desire to? The present system is arbitrary and unreasonable—a wasteful use of letters that spell nothing, and add nothing to the dignity and importance of the words they render cumbersome and hard to lift."

And ends thus:

"It is pretty hard to come to it all at once, but the tide of spelling reform is rising, and two or three generations hence the boys and girls will laugh at the system of spelling their fool-fore-fathers were so reluctant to break away from."

We do not advise any one to use the word "fool" as a descriptive adjective for the present forefathers. In the first place, it is clearly impolite to "present company"; and in the second place it is likely that the people of two or three generations hence will be cherishing some follies of their own. Forefathers in every age must have been pretty foolish fellows—look at their posterity!

But this statement from a daily newspaper of good standing is one of the signs of the times. "Simplified spelling is here to stay. There is no getting away from it, and why should we desire to?"

## FOLLOW THE GLEAM!

Follow the gleam! Follow the light that you see on the road that you would go. Do not sit down and wait for some one else to provide you with a complete map of the road and a complete statement of all that you will see when you get to the end of your journey, or of all the difficulties you will encounter in the course of your journey. Follow the gleam!

This is for those reformers of orthography and other evils, who are afflicted with the malady called prudence and the paralysis called logic; who wish to know in detail, before they go forward, all that is going to happen when they do go forward. It is right, of course, to choose one's end, and to choose the road by which one may reach it. It is foolish to go, whether boldly or timidly, on the wrong road. Seek first the right road. But then go forward! Do not wait until the road is cleared, to the very end, of all obstructions, or until your companions are freed from all doubts and fears. Go forward, altho you

may have to halt, or to wind around obstructions, or to fight your way thru the tangles of the thicket. Remember the maxim of St. Augustine: "It is better to limp in the right road than to run swiftly in the wrong."

Some of the advocates of the regulation and improvement of English spelling are concerned lest by taking any action, they should make "mistakes"; lest by adopting some simplifications, they may have to "change again" some time in the future. Now, it is well to be prudent; it is well to map out one's intended journey; it is well to avoid making changes that will have to be undone. But it should be remembered that wise judgment in respect to what should be done in *all* things can be obtained only by experience in doing *some* things. You can not act wisely, or even plan wisely, for the future, by remaining in the present. Nothing venture, nothing have. You can not make an omelet without breaking some eggs; and you should not keep the eggs too long in cold storage. You must make *some* changes, if you want any beneficial changes. Do now the things that you can do now; and, while trying to forecast the future, add to your forecasting that clearer foresight that comes from seeing the thing in itself, and from seeing how it works. Predict, if you like; but predict not too much. And after you have predicted, go forward and see how the thing will actually be. Follow the gleam!

## ANCIENT AND MODERN

The Carnegie Institution of Washington is an institution for the advancement of science. It publishes many books which have a real value, and are therefore not among the "best six sellers." But if they do not sell rapidly, they sell well, to those who are interested in high and dry matters—recondite, troglodyte, trilobite, Hittite—and are well worth buying.

And to modern minds there is an added inducement in the fact that when you buy one of these works, for example, "The Seal Cylinders of Western Asia," by Dr. William Hayes Ward, you get a receipt containing this truly modern inscription, "Shipt this date."

Dr. Ward's erudite and fascinating volume is a perfect orgy of Asiatic antiquities, and appropriately enuf is printed in the usual Babylonian spelling of English; but, true to his instincts, he has dropt the modern spelling *dropt* right into the midst of the fights of Gilgamesh and Eabani with archaic bulls and lions (p. 61).

## SWEETNESS AND LIGHT

"We consider these silly and mischievous people to be quite as dangerous as political anarchists, and would suggest the suppression of their meetings by a police-raid. The transatlantic undesirables should be at once deported. America has done enough harm to the English language as it is."

There is more, but this is already too sweet for anything. It is also pretty light. The quotation is from the London *Saturday Review* of September 16, 1911, page 355.

And can you guess to what dangerous persons these sweet words refer? Let us give the complete sentence at the end of the quotation:

"America has done enough harm to the English language as it is, without making us write 'nu' for 'knew', 'korf' for 'cough', or 'piktzher' for 'picture'. They do it wrong, being so majestic, to offer it the show of violence (or sho ov vierlunz)."

It will be seen that this accurate and polite description refers to the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Board who were holding a Conference the preceding week with the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain.

The whole article is worth reading. As is usually the case with articles written against the idea of simplified spelling, it contains historical and etymological information not to be found anywhere else. Thus the *Saturday Review* informs us that "'autumn', and still more 'auctumnal', at once gives the derivation from 'auct', that which increases." It also informs us that "plough, dough, trough, daughter, laughter, and so forth—point to that digamma which is now on the point of extinction in almost all languages." Do you see the point—and the digamma?

The *Saturday Review* goes on: "The 'f' sound of 'u' is curiously preserved in the English pronunciation of 'lieutenant'." It is very "curiously preserved" indeed—probably by the use of artificial preservativs known only to the editor of the *Saturday Review*. The writer continues:

"For England to allow these and a myriad of like distinctions to be thus effaced by the steam-roller of democratic philistinism would be like a noble tearing up his pedigree, cutting down all his secular oaks and immemorial elms, burning his priceless pictures and furniture, and offering his lordly demesne in eligible building lots. It would be a reversal of all culture, and a lapse into the barbarism of Huns and Goths."

How familiar all this sounds! It has the fine old Tory ring of immemorial ignorance.

## THE CAMPAIGN IN CANADA

The Third Annual Convention of the Hardisty Teachers' Association was held at Sedgewick, Alberta, October 12, 1911. The subject of "Simplified Spelling" was presented by Inspector Walter Scott, who is one of several Inspectors of Schools who are bringing the matter home to the teachers of that Province.

The Eighth Annual Convention of the Lacombe Teachers' Association was held in the public school at Ponoka, Alberta, October 19 and 20, 1911. Among the topics of discussion was "Simplified Spelling", which was presented in an address by Inspector Thibaudeau. He was followed by Inspector Scott of Hardisty. Mr. Thibaudeau reports that about 60 teachers were present, "some of them driving forty or fifty miles" to the Convention, and that they "all approved the movement."

The District Teachers' Convention held at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, in the last week of October, considered among other things simplified spelling. The matter was presented by Principal W. J. Stevenson, who was supported in the debate by the President, Mr. John Houston, M.A., of Wolseley. The Convention adopted a resolution requesting the Department of Education to inquire into the subject. Inspector W. E. Stevenson, B.A., of Balcarres, states that the Department now has the subject under consideration.

The subject of simplified spelling was brought before the meeting of the Provincial Sub-Examiners at the Parliament Buildings, Regina, Saskatchewan in July, and is likely to be resumed at the next meeting.

At a meeting of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Convention at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, last year, a committee was appointed to deal with the subject of simplified spelling and to report back at this year's convention. The *Regina Leader* of October 31, reports that it is the opinion of E. B. Hutcherson, superintendent of the public schools, and T. E. Perrett, principal of the Normal School, that "simplified spelling could be introduced to advantage in the educational institutions of Saskatchewan." Mr. Perrett expresses his approval of "the form adopted by the civil service of Nova Scotia." Mr. Hutcherson says: "A system of simplified spelling would have to be worked out carefully," and believes that "all the provinces should take up the question at the same time." A Nova Scotia

paper, referring to this movement, says: "The teachers of the West have struck the right cord; and we hope their refrain will be so loud that it will be heard and heeded all over this great Dominion."

## SUPERFLUOUS LETTERS

We hear much of "superfluous" letters. We are told to omit "superfluous" letters. Some who favor simplified spelling make their whole program consist in omitting superfluous letters. It is well to omit what is superfluous; but there is a fallacy in this advice.

In the first place, it does not follow that English spelling would be adequately simplified by the mere omission of superfluous letters. There must sometimes be substitution of letters that are right in the given word for letters that are wrong in that word. Often the regulation consists of both the omission of superfluous letters and the substitution of the proper letters for those that are improper. For example: The word *dropped* can be simplified only by (1) the omission of the superfluous *p* and *e*, and (2) the substitution of *t* for the now erroneous *d*. It would be no real simplification to omit simply the *e* (making *droppd*), or to omit also the second *p* (making *dropd*). Both of the forms that result are out of analogy and add to the existing difficulties. We must both omit and substitute.

But the main fallacy is in the common assumption that every one knows what letters are "superfluous." Take the word speld *head*. Every one will agree that the *a* is superfluous. Omit it. We then have *hed*. Every one will regard this as an appropriate simplified spelling. Why? Not because it consists of *h* and *e* and *d*, but because those letters, *in that order*, accord with a recognized analogy to which there is almost no exception. Initial *h* followed by a single *e* followed by a final *d*, makes it *hed*. No English-speaking person seeing these letters in that position would think of any other word. But take the word *headed*. Is the *a* superfluous? If you call it superfluous, and omit it, the result is *heded*, having a stressed *e* with one pronunciation and an unstressed *e* with an other pronunciation. And the stressed *e* with the required pronunciation is in a position where many persons would give it an other pronunciation. Some would take *heded* as a crudely simplified spelling of *headed*. The *a* in *headed*, therefore, is not superfluous, in the sense that it does now indicate, to existing

users of English, the pronunciation of the word. If it is omitted, some agreement must be had. We must either leave *heded* for the required sounds, or else double the middle *d*, so as to make *hedded* (a form which is unfamiliar to readers, but which would be pronounst by all persons with the pronunciation which we now give to *headed*), or else use a diacritic or a special letter.

Who is to determin what letters are superfluous? Obviously, not everybody; not even every educated person; not even every scholar, until he has done the duty of a scholar—that is, until he has considered the case in connection with other cases of the same class, and has found some basis for forming a judgment and making a recommendation.

It will not do to simplify or to reform words offhand. It will not do to reform anything offhand. To reform is to change an existing thing or custom. The thing or custom exists because it has acquired by process of time and the action of different influences a certain stability. That stability should not be disturbd unless to bring the thing or custom into a better state, or to start it in a better direction.

This is the ultimate reason for adopting the machinery of committees and commissions in the regulation of English spelling. Individual action is too uncertain. Many of the individuals who undertake to push the necessary reform lack either the necessary knowledge of the subject or that knowledge of mankind without which ideas can never be lodged in the mind of the public.

Even scientific opinion is not enuf. A great deal of knowledge and judgment are required to solv the other problems. There is the great problem of getting a sufficient number of educated people to approve even the principle of regulating English spelling, or to pay attention to the recommendations of scholars. The problem of determining the simplified forms of *head*, *dropped*, on the one side, or *night*, *height*, *aisle*, on the other, is an intellectual problem, which can be solvd only by an intellectual process. The problem of persuading the average reader, the man in the street, the writer for the daily press, to give some attention to the recommendations made for the simplification of English spelling, is a matter of persuasion, of management, of tactics, of education.

There is also the problem of securing means for informing the whole nation, or at least the whole body of educated men and women. In this matter, to inform all is to reform all. To inform some is only to reform a few.

## PROFESSOR MARCH

Professor Francis A. March died at his home in Easton, Pa., September 9, 1911, at the age of eighty-five years, ten months, and sixteen days. He was one of the great men of the world. Eminent as a scholar, he wrought and traveled in all the fields of filological learning, was verst in the history and tenets of filosofy, and was also learned in the history and development of constitutional law. In these and other studies he wrote and taught as a master. All came easy to him, for he knew them. Preeminent in the domain of Anglo-Saxon, and familiar with English literature in all its stages, he was for more than fifty years professor of the English language and of comparativ filology. He was the first man to possess that title; and he was the first man to organize and systematize the teaching of the English language on the lines of filological science. In his little book, "Method of Philological Study of the English Language," and in his greatest single work, "A Comparative Grammar of the Anglo-Saxon Language," he set a model that has been followd in the teaching of English filology in all the colleges and universities of the world.

It was Professor March who gave definit form to the proposals among filologists for the regulation and improvement of English spelling. In 1874, in his address as President of the American Philological Association, he proposed that the Association should take up the matter; and acting in concert with Prof. James Hadley, Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, Prof. S. S. Haldeman, Prof. Francis J. Child, Prof. William D. Whitney, Prof. Thomas R. Lounsbury, and other scholars, as a committee of that body, he formulated the principles which should guide the movement. The Committee proceeded, in cooperation for some years with a similar committee of the Philological Society of England, to make recommendations in detail, both as to the ultimate standard of fonetic notation and as to the particular steps of simplification which should be taken. The reports of this Committee made from year to year, beginning in 1875, were accepted by the Spelling Reform Association, of which Professor March was President, and gave substance, weight and direction to the movement, even among those reformers who shrank from accepting some of the logical consequences of their ideas.

Upon reaching his eighty-second year, Dr. March retired from actual teaching; but to the last he kept up his interest in the movement for

the regulation of English spelling. Disabled by a fall in January, 1911, he was thereafter confined to his room. But he read and heard the news of the world, and commented upon it with his old-time humor and shrewdness. He never lost the serenity of a philosopher. It was a deep satisfaction to him in his later years, that the movement in which he had taken so great an interest, and of which, for so many years, he was the patient and undaunted leader, in the face of odium and neglect, had at last gained the recognition of the world, and made it a signal honor to have been one of the pioneers. A great, a learned, a wise, and a good man has departed; but his works, his teachings, his influence, will long remain, a rich possession for that part of the world which cares for ideas and ideals.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

The *Independent* of October 19, 1911 (page 93), contains an editorial article on "Progressive Spelling Reform" referring to the recent Conference in London and the Proposals made there by the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society.

Mr. F. N. Clark, an agent for real estate in Portland, Oregon, has been printing in the local newspapers some artistic advertisements pointing out the varied attractions of the landscape at Eastmoreland, a growing suburb of Portland. The advertisement is also artistically spelled—the view is "expansiv", the scenery is "impressiv", the site was "purchast", and "fixt" and graduated prices begin with a moderate amount. The advertisements bear the legend: "Orthografy in accordance with recommendations of Simplified Spelling Board, N. Y." Altogether, a very good place to build in.

Mr. Lewis Hochheimer, of the Baltimore bar, has published "A Manual of American Criminal Law, including Forms and Precedents" (Baltimore, Press of King Brothers, 1911). It contains many simplified spellings, including forms like *tho*, *altho*, *thru*, *pretense*, *offense*, etc.; and all the preterits and past participles pronounced as *t*, are spelled with *t*; for example: *abolisht*, *accomplisht*, *affixt*, *annext*, *askt*, *attacht*, *clast*, *deceast*, *dismist*, *distinguisht*, *equipt*, *establisht*, *fixt*, *knockt*, *mixt*, *past*, *practist*, *punisht*, *reverst*, *trencht*.

We have received an announcement of a work in ten volumes, entitled "The Best of the World's

Classics". It is announced that the editor-in-chief is Henry Cabot Lodge, United States Senator from Massachusetts. We are pleased to notice that Senator Lodge, in this monumental work, uses a considerable number of simplified spellings, such as *tho*, *thru*, *stopt*, *prest*, *possest*, *saber*, etc. It may be supposed that Senator Lodge had to wrestle with his publishers in order to obtain permission to use these scholarly spellings; but if so, the struggle was successful, and the Senator has the satisfaction not only of editing "The Best of the World's Classics", but of using in them, to some extent, the best English spelling.

A letter from Mr. William Archer, the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, dated London, November 18, says, "Our campaign was very successfully launched last night in a lecture by Professor Rippmann to a large audience of teachers. With one exception, the subsequent speakers were in our favor."

The Society has added to its list of Vice-Presidents Sir James Donaldson, the Principal of the University of Glasgow, and Sir Frederick Pollock, the eminent jurist.

The *London Daily Chronicle*, of November 18, contains a long interview with Mr. Archer, in which Mr. Archer's answers are printed in the simplified spelling proposed by the Society. But the reporter was evidently green in the business. He reproduced Mr. Archer's own opinions in Mr. Archer's own words and own spelling, thus allowing Mr. Archer to reach the newspaper's readers without misrepresentation.

The Simplified Spelling Board has printed a list of the Signers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It contains the names and addresses of 170 persons, including many teachers. The list has been sent to all the Signers mentioned, and to nearly all the teachers in Milwaukee, and to many other persons there. This list has been printed at the suggestion of some of the advocates of simplified spelling in Milwaukee, who wish to bring home to their community the facts about the movement. The Board has previously printed a list of the Signers in Philadelphia. It will print a similar list of Signers in other cities, whenever it appears that there is a group of persons in the given city, who may be relied upon to promote the movement if supplied with the necessary literature and information.

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## SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board will be held in New York at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 2 and 3, 1912. The Annual Dinner will take place Wednesday evening, April 3. Friends of the cause who wish to attend the dinner may purchase tickets (price five dollars). Requests for places at the dinner should be made before the end of March.

## LOGIC AND MEDICIN

In the preliminary letter sent out to scholars, educators, and men of letters, in 1905, in preparation for the organization of the Simplified Spelling Board, they were askt to agree to use, in their own correspondence, the simpler spellings that they would recommend to the public; and the signers of the letter said that they would do the same. "The chalis we commend to others' lips, we lift smiling to our own." They have kept that promis. They have been using simplified spellings freely in their correspondence, and so far as possible, in their printed works. They have taken their own medicin, and are the better for it. But now they must take some more medicin, equally wholesome, tho it may seem a little more bitter. The movement for the adoption of simpler spellings has spred so far, and has been so widely approved, that there is a demand for more simplifications of the same sort and of new sorts.

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain has been organized, has studied the problem in connection with the work and the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Board, and has found it possible to take a decided step in advance. It has, in effect, adopted all the simplifications recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. It has adopted also a great many more. It has,

in fact, condensst the rules, so to speak, into a revised scheme of spelling, in which only one form is used for any consonant; and in which only one, two, or three forms, according to position, and other conditions, are allowd for the vowels. This scheme has been publisht in a pamphlet entitled, "A Scheme of Simplified Spelling Briefly Described," and also in a sixpenny handbook entitled, "Simplified Spelling: An Appeal to Common Sense," publisht December, 1911. The pamphlet may be had free, the handbook for sixpense, on application to the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, 44 Great Russell street, W. C., London, England.

The Proposals of the Simplified Spelling Society thus presented contain a great many advanst simplifications. The scheme is applied to the spelling of all words, including the most difficult, and therefore produces many 'odd-looking' forms. We must all admit them to be odd-looking. But we have been telling the public, our frends and our opponents, that *any* change in spelling must look odd at first. That is the necessary result of following anything like a system.

In taking this forward step our British frends have made an appeal to our common sense, just as we have made an appeal to their common sense. We must take the medicin which we have prescribed for others. The chalis which we have commended to others' lips we must now lift smiling to our own.

This does not mean, of course, that we are bound to accept all, or even any, of the proposals of our British frends; it means only that we must give these proposals our serious, intellectual attention; and must accept the lessons of logic when applied to other men's ideas, as we profess to do when applied to our own. We may reject any or all proposals, for reasons, but we must not reject any proposal, any class of simplifica-

tions, any single simplification, because it 'looks odd' at first, or even because it looks odd on the second day, or in the second week.

To take an example: The Simplified Spelling Society proposes to spell 'prove' *pruuv*. This looks odd, strange, unfamiliar. It involves the use of the digraf *uu*, that is unfamiliar to English readers, and is known only to scholars, who are aware that the digraf was used sometimes in the earliest English (for example, Anglo-Saxon *cuu*, *bruun*, *huus*, *muus*, beside the usual *cu*, *cow*, *brun*, *brown*, *hus*, *house*, *mus*, *mouse*), as well as in earlier Scandinavian, and is still used to some extent in Danish, Norwegian and German. The digraf is definit, intelligible, and can not be misred, but it is unfamiliar. But let any one propose any other simplification of the spelling 'prove.' The alternatives are *proove*, *proov*, *prouve*, *prouv*, *pruve*, *pruv*, *prüv*, *prüv*, *pruuv*, *pruuv*, *pruhv*, *pruev*. Do not all of these 'look odd'? And are not the ones that look the least odd, the least suitable? It will not do, in any standard alfabet, to use *o* or *o..e*, or *oo* or *oo..e*, for the vowel sound in question. We are bound to use one of the forms that contain the letter *u*.

But these are details. The purpose of our preachment is simply this: We must accept the results of our own reasoning; we must abide by the logic of our persuasions; we must take our own medicin. The chalis we commend to others' lips, we must lift smiling to our own. We may, indeed, omit the smile; but we must not omit the medicin. 'Prove' all things; and hold fast that which is good.

## CHANCE IN KANSAS

Professor Beall, of the Kansas State Agricultural College, made up a list of common words, every one of them found in the Fifth Reader used in the Kansas schools. Various groups of students were askt to spell these words. From a table printed in various newspapers, it appears that out of 112 high school and college students, only one word, *measure*, was speld correctly by all. The ten words "misspeld"—that is, not speld in the conventional manner—by the greatest number of students were the following: *Villain*, *cemetery*, *excel*, *attack*, *disappoint*, *lose*, *privilege*, *victimals*, *disappear*, *ninety*. These were "misspeld," in this order, by 92 to 48 students of the 112. The 10 words "misspeld" by the least number of

students, were the following: *Writer*, *carefully*, *until*, *suggest*, *studying*, *arrange*, *original*, *government*, *meadow*, *consent*. These were "misspeld," in this order, by from 10 to 13 students. "Four hundred and seventeen students, from the eighth grade to the sophomore year in college, made an average grade of only 82, while 23 teachers—experts, if there are any—scored only 95."

The Ithaca (New York) *Journal* (Feb. 5, 1912) from which we have quoted, asks: "How many of the above words can you spell? Could your parents do better than you?"

Those persons who understand English spelling; that is, those persons who wish to see it amended, will at once see the causes for the great number of "misspellings" of *villain*, *cemetery*, and *excel*, and the reason for the small number of "misspellings" of *writer*, *carefully*, and *until*. The reason why *measure* was not "misspeld" by any of the 112 students is not so obvious; but a reflection will disclose it. It is familiar in the school tables of "weights and measures"—a load of spellings so heavy as to make, by repetition, a lasting impression.

## PHLEGMATICK SPELLING

The Earl of Clarendon wrote, in the year 1647, of "those cholerick and phlegmatick and melancholick Humours, which burn and cloy and fuffocate the vital Parts and Passages." ("Essays" in "Tracts," pub. 1747, p. 94.)

These sesquipedalian spellings were a little later reduced to "choleric," "phlegmatic" and "melancholic." It was a piece of terrific audacity, but it succeeded; and we are now redy for the next "radical change"—"coleric," "flegmatic," and "melancolic." This will make the phlegmatick cholerick and even melancholick; it will "destroy all traces of the etymology"; but we must be ruthless. Let the helv go with the hatchet. What do we care for English literature?

## PH

Those erudite persons who think that the ancient *ph* should never give way to *f*, have been so zelous to defend this glorious principle that they have overlookt, in many cases, their own usage to the contrary. As it is part of our offis to supply information to those erudite persons whose filology consists of *ph*, we beg leave to warn them of a serious mistake into which they have fallen.

They are writing certain words with an *f*, that, according to their own theory, ought always to be written with a *ph*!

When they learn this they will, no doubt, immediately "reform" (much as they hate that word), and spell the words hereafter as follows: *Phansy*, *phantasy*, *phantastic*, *phrensy*, *phrantic* (altho *phrentic* is more 'learned'), *copher*, *cophin*, *daphodil*, *Thiphany*, etc. And if they wish to apply the same principle in the other direction, they will be equally zealous to keep the sacred "Greek" *ph* from intruding where it has no right to be. They will therefore hereafter spell *cipher* as 'cifer,' *nephew* as 'nevew' or 'nefew,' *Ralph* as 'Ralf' or 'Rafe,' *Murphy* as 'Murfy,' and so on.

### OUT OF CONTROL

A gentleman of Boston, who imagines that he is opposed, on literary and etymological grounds, to the simplification of the spelling of the English language, writes to a member of the Board to express his feelings. Among other things, he says: "Look at that old thorn *comptroller*. There is a reason for the spelling, and to change it would transform a *comptroller* into a *controller*.— See *comere*, to care for, perfect participle *comptus*. *Comptometer*, a kindred word, names a machine which also is a counter." Now, outside of Boston and Patagonia, *comptroller* does not come from "*comere*, to care for" and has no connection with *compute* or *count*.

But he would give some sway to reason. He says: "I wish there was some way to get rid of the British *y* and *s*, as in authorised, in American editions of English books, as one who makes an error in language or in spelling does a great harm to the young learner. When a syllable is added, reason should be used. As *traveler*, *shoveling*, *swiveling* could neither be pronounced in any other way nor give any other meaning, why cumber them with another letter?" Then, like Patrick Henry and Cassandra, he lifts a warning voice: "Hydra had his Hercules, Phaeton his Jupiter, and Simplified Spelling may profit by their example."

Did Hydra have "his" Hercules? We thought that Hydra was a lady. Did "Phaeton" have his Jupiter? We are quite sure that Jupiter did not have his "Phaeton." At any rate, "Phaeton" was not speld in that way by Jupiter. Overhaul your dictionary, and when found, make a note of.

### A POLITICAL NECESSITY

*La Follette's Weekly Magazine*, which is certified to be a progressive newspaper, has opened its columns (Jan. 27, 1912) to an article on "Progress in Spelling Reform," by Professor Brander Matthews. We quote some sentences:

"Spelling Reform is a political as well as an educational necessity. . . . It would be an international advantage. . . . The English language . . . is now spoken by more than twice as many people as have any other European tongue for their native speech. It bids fair to become the world language of the future,—that is, to be the second tongue of every educated man throughout the globe. For this function it is admirably fitted by its grammatical simplicity and by its flexible vocabulary. The chief obstacle in the way of its extension is the barbarous complexity of its spelling. And this is something that we have it in our power to remedy, even if we advance slowly at first, and cautiously. What we can each of us do is to resolve always to use the shortest spelling which we can recall at the moment."

Here is good practical advice that we can all follow at once, without any labor of preparation, or of revision. In writing a letter we can "use the shortest spelling which we can recall at the moment." Follow your own judgment. It is likely to be right, or in the right direction. At any rate, you have performed an act of judgment, and made a motion to amend. There is no act of Congress or of reason that requires you to write the same word in the same way in all your letters. If you believe that you are under such an obligation, let us beg you to fulfil the equally strong obligation to write all your *a*'s and *b*'s, your *p*'s and *q*'s, exactly in the same way, in every word, in every line, in every manuscript. Likewise, to dot all your *i*'s, and to cross all your *t*'s, in the same way. Likewise, to write only 'one,' and never '1' or 'I,' for the first numeral; and only 'first,' and never '1st' or 'Ist' or '1' or 'I,' for the first ordinal number. Likewise, to write your name always 'John Cholmondeley Jones,' and never 'John C. Jones' or 'J. C. Jones' or 'Jones' or 'Jack' or 'J. C. J.' or 'J.' And hereof fall not. As a slave of convention, you have no right to use your own mind or to suit your own taste or convenience. You must always do as some incompetent persons in your grandfather's time prescribed.

But of course, if you are in favor of Simplified Spelling, you become emancipated from these medieval traditions.

## MODERN

At the twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Modern Language Association of America, held in Chicago, December 27-29, 1911, the Secretary, Prof. Charles H. Grandgent, of Harvard University, offered (December 28), this motion:

"Voted: That the Association hereby adopts the rules and recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board in its Circular No. 23 of March 6, 1909, as the norm of spelling in the official publications and correspondence of the Association."

The motion "was carried, and the Association adopted the rules and recommendations proposed." And in the latest number of the *Publications* of the Association, vol. 27, no. 1, March, 1912, from which we quote ("Proceedings for 1911," p. xxiii) the said rules and recommendations are carried out.

Prof. Grandgent was next day elected President of the Association, and Prof. William Guild Howard, of Harvard University, was elected Secretary. Prof. Howard is a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board.

## ORTHOGRAFY IN THE MAKING

The *Herald*, of Toronto, Canada, a paper devoted to discussions of pronunciation and orthograpy, has this paragraph:

"A girl aged eight in Oberlin, Ohio, is trubld how tu spel lilac. 'I'm not sure whether it is lieluck or lylock. Isn't ther a gh in it?'"

Here you have orthograpy in the making. The little girl had heard the word pronounst in two or three of the different rustic ways, and was left in dout as to the second syllable. The syllable being doubtful, she naturally thought that there must be a *gh* in it, as that imp is at the bottom of many pieces of orthografic mischief.

## AN UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR

The Provincial Normal College, of Truro, Nova Scotia, has been using simplified spelling for several years. The *Calendar* for the session of 1911-12 bears the following legend:

"The departures from traditional spelling found in these pages are in accord with the present recommendations of the 'Simplified Spelling Board' of the English-speaking peoples and the 'Simplified Spelling Society' of Great Britain."

This is followd by an extract from the Resolutions past unanimously May 1, 1911, by the Imperial Education Conference, in London, thus:

"(XI) That this Conference is of the opinion that the simplification of spelling is a matter of

urgent importance to all parts of the Empire, calling for such practical steps in every country as may appear most conduciv to the ultimate attainment of the end in view—the creation, in connection with the subject, of an enlightend public opinion, and the direction of it to the maintenance, in its purity and simplicity among all English-speaking peoples, of the common English tung."

## "LET US GET BUSY" IN TEXAS

Mr. R. L. Paschal, Principal of the Fort Worth High School, red a paper before the Superintendents' and Principals' Section of The Texas State Teachers' Association at Waco, Texas, December 28, 1911. After stating the case in a clear and temperate manner, and pointing out the necessity of introducing the simplified spelling of English into the public schools, the paper thus concludes:

"The Simplified Spelling Board has recommended some of these things and has published them. The Board is moving in the right direction, with that caution and conservatism befitting its great task and the scholarship of the men composing it. It has accomplished so much that we, as the responsible directors of education in Texas, should no longer hesitate. America has already begun to spell rationally; we in Texas should recognize the fact. It is as plain as the nose on your face. Read the magazines that are particular about their scholarship; in many of the best you will find the simplified forms.

"It is time for us to adopt the simplified forms, and to teach them to our children. Begin with spelling-books and primers. Let us get busy."

The following resolution was adopted:

"We recommend to school boards and teachers of the state of Texas that the simplified forms of spelling shall be recognized and adopted as alternative or allowable spellings."

At the same meeting "the suggestion was made and approved that the speller next adopted by the State Text-Book Board should contain the simplified spellings." Superintendent P. W. Horn of Houston, the author of the speller now in use, is an advocate of simplified spelling.

## THE WAY MOTHER USED TO SPELL

Mary Washington, the mother of George Washington, in a letter to her illustrious son, which she dated "Martch the 17 1782," six years after the Declaration of Independence, showd her own independence by the following spellings, among others (we quote from a facsimile): *Throu* (for *through*), *desierd*, *killd*, *shockt*, *hous*, *one* (for *own*), *soe* (twice), *agin* (three times), *akers*, etc. It is well known that George Washington himself, thruout his whole life, stedfastly refused to spell according to 'Webster' or 'Worcester' or any other stereotype plates.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

On December 16, 1911, the Board received from Prof. A. J. Ladd, of the University of North Dakota, 68 cards in addition to other cards recently signed by students in the Teachers' College of the University of North Dakota. Most of these students will, in a short time, be teachers. Among other things they will teach English spelling. And it will be simplified spelling. For whether school directors bid or forbid, teachers who have been thus educated in the principles of simplification and reason can not but teach, directly or indirectly, modern and rational ideas in spelling, just as they teach modern and rational ideas in geography, physics and other branches of study.

Dr. J. I. D. Hinds, head of the Department of Chemistry, in Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., delivered an address on "English Spelling and Its Simplification" before the Tennessee Philological Association at Chattanooga, February 23, 1912. He reviewed the movement, stated the main facts, gave an account of the Simplified Spelling Society and its proposals, and ended as follows:

"Let me, in conclusion, bespeak for the effort to simplify the English spelling the kindly sympathy and earnest support of all educators and philologists. The character of the men who constitute the Simplified Spelling Board and its Advisory Council is a guarantee that the reform will be conservative, scientific, artistic, and practical. Let us place the new spellings in the hands of the children of today, and the men and women of tomorrow will rise up and call us blessed, because we have relieved them of the most arduous and irksome task in the whole course of education."

A literary club of the students of the high school at Malden, Mass., held a debate, January 12, 1912, on the question, "Resolved, that the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board should be adopted by the American people." The affirmative won. Doubtless the speakers had eloquence, as well as reason, on their side.

The first catalog of Reed College, an institution lately established at Portland, Ore., with a very large endowment, uses all the simplifications in spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board. President Foster, in this action, fulfils the desire of the founder and of himself to make Reed College, which has been founded in the twentieth century, conform to the ideas of the twentieth century.

The Simplified Spelling Board continues to receive requests for supplies of circulars in quantities

for distribution by superintendents and principals among their teachers, and by professors among their students. Teachers and professors intending to lecture on simplified spelling send for circulars and cards to distribute among the audience. In some cases a single lecture, supported by circulars and cards, has resulted in converting forty, fifty, or a hundred persons, who have signed the card and have thus entered upon the simple life in orthography.

Dr. Charles P. G. Scott made an address on the movement for the simplification of English spelling before the students of the University of Pittsburgh, Wednesday, February 14, 1912. Chancellor McCormick, in introducing the speaker, declared his hearty approval of the movement, and at the end, his hearty approval of the opinions expressed. In the evening, by invitation of Professor W. G. Chambers, Dean of the Department of Education, Dr. Scott spoke before the Seminar of that Department on "English Etymology and English Spelling." On Thursday morning, February 16, by invitation of Mr. Rynearson, Director of the High Schools of Pittsburgh, the same speaker addressed the students of the Fifth Avenue High School on "English Spelling: What it is, and What it might be." On the evening of February 15, Dr. Scott delivered an address on "The Regulation of English Spelling," from the scientific and literary point of view, with historical illustrations, before the Pittsburgh Academy of Science and Art, in the lecture hall of the Carnegie Institute. On Friday morning, February 16, he made an other address before the students of the Central High School.

A considerable number of teachers in Pittsburgh have recorded themselves in favor of the movement for the simplification of English spelling. Besides the Chancellor of the University, Dr. McCormick, Professor Chambers and Professor Hench are recorded in its favor; and several of the officers of the Carnegie Institute are on the same side.

## LOCAL AGENTS

Any one who desires to act as a local agent of the Simplified Spelling Board and to receive its publications for distribution, may obtain on request the necessary information. To young men of literary or scientific tastes the position offers exceptional opportunities for extending their acquaintance and influence.

## DOWN TO Z

*Current Literature* is one of the popular magazines that use simplified spelling. The editor, Edward J. Wheeler, has some convictions on the subject (not all editors agree with him in this), and puts them into cold type. We find in the cold type of *Current Literature* for February, 1912 (p. 128-219), the following regulations of spelling in one class of words: Advertizing, advize, amazement, blazed, comprizing, compromise, diffuzed, disorganize, doze, enterprize, expozed, gaze, gazed, imposing, merchandize, monopolizes, organized, phraze, realize, revize, revizing, seized, surprize, surprized, surprizing.

In the same magazine we find: Altho, tho, demagog, epilog. These also have become current literature.

## NOAH WEBSTER'S LOGIC

Noah Webster publisht, in 1790, a "Collection of Essays" written on political, social and literary topics at different times since 1784. Some of the essays are printed in a revized orthografy. Mr. Webster says in the last paragraf of the Preface:

In the essays, ritten within the last yeer, a considerable change of spelling iz introduced by way of experiment. This liberty waz taken by the writers before the age of queen Elizabeth, and to this we are indeted for the preference of modern spelling over that of Gower and Chaucer. The man who admits that the change of *hous-bonde, mynde, ygone, moneth* into *husband, mind, gone, month*, iz an improovment, must acknowledge also the riting of *helth, breth, rong, tung, munth*, to be an improovment. Ther iz no alternativ. Every possible reezon that could ever be offerd for altering the spelling of wurds, stil exists in full force; and if a gradual reform should not be made in our language, it wil proof that we are less under the influence of reezon than our ancestors.

No person has busied himself to refute the young Mr. Webster's logic in this declaration. There are, of course, many differences of opinion as to the simplifications that may be made according to the existing rules and analogies of the English language. Not all men, not even all spelling reformers, know what, precisely, are the existing rules and analogies of English spelling; and some men, in the name of reform, have proposed changes that are not in accord with the existing rules and analogies, or are in accord with "rules," or minority analogies, that should be disregarded.

Noah Webster will be rememberd as the gentleman who afterward publisht dictionaries in which some of his ideas were proposed; with the result that he was fiercely assaild as a rash innovator seeking to "destroy English etymology" and to "obliterate the English language." Now the same Webster, as the nominal sponsor of the dictionary which bears his useful name, is invoked as the "old-fashiond Webster," the one conservativ authority in the dictionary field!

## AN APPEAL TO CHINA

The *Montreal Daily Witness* of February 3, 1912, in an article on spelling, with special reference to the Simplified Spelling Society, says, among other things:

"Our objection to this simplified spelling crusade is not that it is not right. It is eminently in the right direction. . . . Shakespeare and Oliver Cromwell spelt the same word in a variety of ways, and we of this generation should surely be free to choose the one which best represents the words as we speak them. We regard these simplified spellers as engaged in a great campaign, if only for their assertion of freedom from one of the most unfounded despotisms that ever shackled a great race. Once remove the sacredness of the Johnson spelling, or rather of its present offspring, and the whole structure must fall. . . .

"Where this movement is at fault is that, by the process adopted, it would take centuries to emancipate the language, making continuous war against continuous prejudice. What is wanted is a completely fonetic spelling such as was adopted for Italy . . . Spain . . . Germany. Any one who can compass the pronunciation can learn to read one of these languages in a few hours. Indeed, there are few intellectual exercises in which one gains so much knowledge at such small cost. It should be a part of every high school course. But he who would read English has to learn every English word separately. There is no measuring the extent of the handicap which this disability puts on the dominance of the English tongue and the influence of Anglo-Saxon ideas. We learn from China that the Republic proposes that English shall be taught in the Chinese schools. If President Sun wants to confer the greatest possible educational boon on his own people, and if he is not averse to making the greatest possible gift to the English race, he will appoint a commission to establish a phonetic spelling of the English language. Once in use anywhere, such a spelling would necessarily spread, so great would be the advantage of it."

This article is reprinted in the *Halifax Herald* of Feb. 17, 1912, with the salient sentences made emfatic by black-face type.

## WHAT IS THE MATTER?

## I. FONETIC SPELLINGS

bat	ran	camp	patent	fantasy
bet	led	bulk	driven	aliment
bit	rid	shelf	pitiful	pediment
cot	pod	wind	radical	aromatic
put	pin	list	infinity	continent

And ten thousand other words. What is the matter with these?

## II. NON-FONETIC SPELLINGS

deBt	catalogUE	sCent	foreIGN	heAd
forfEit	pedagogUE	PHantom	thoUGH	heAlth
yaCht	iSland	telegraPH	thrOuGH	hEarth

What is the matter with these?

## III. "FONETIC" SPELLINGS

det	catalog	sent	foren	hed
forfit	pedagog	fantom	tho	helth
yot	iland	telegraf	thru	harth

What is the matter with these?

## DICTIONARY DESPOTISM

William Cobbett, an energetic politician who wrote an insurgent English grammar, allowed himself to father also a "New French and English Dictionary," published in 1833. In this assisted compilation we find this statement: "We are always to cut our words short; and, with very few exceptions, you find people writing *lov'd*, *mov'd*, *walk'd*. They wish to make the *pen* correspond with the *tongue*."

In his "List of irregular verbs" (Intro. p. xii) Cobbett gives those forms which he individually approves, and then in a separate list gives others which he does not approve: "List of verbs which, by some persons, are erroneously deemed irregulars." In this second list are included forms like *built*, *burnt*, *crept*, *curst*, *dealt*, *dipt*, *dreamt*, *dwelt*, *helpt*, *knelt*, *leapt*, (participle), *slipt*, *smelt*, *spelt*, *spilt*, *stamp*, *stript*, *swept*, *wept*, *whipt*. This shows that even an opponent of simplified spelling recognized at that time (1833) the customary use of forms like *dipt*, *helpt*, *slipt*, *stamp*, *stript*, *whipt*, beside forms like *burnt*, *crept*, *swept*, etc.

It was just at this time that the controversy between the dictionaries, or rather the rival publishers and their drummers, was beginning. As a result of this controversy most of the forms like *dipt*, *helpt*, *slipt*, were excluded from recognition in the dictionaries which happened

to be in favor. Some were indeed included, or retained, by accident, so that they appear even in the most 'conservative' dictionaries, and many of them continued to be used by the poets; but thru this blind omission of the facts, in the crude dictionaries of the time, such forms were excluded almost entirely from newspaper print. Nor was this the only suppression of facts of English usage. No one will find, in the books commonly used in the public schools, any full and correct statement of the nature and history of these verb forms, of their spelling, or of their literary status. The facts are suppressed. Even the publishers of popular editions of 'standard' authors habitually falsify the spelling of those authors. Shakespeare and Tennyson, Milton and Cowper, are alike misprinted. Otherwise, such forms as *dipt* and *dropt*, *slipt* and *stamp* would have now the same 'authority' which the drummers concede to *burnt* and *crept*, *blest* and *lost*.

## "PAINT"

If you will look, you will see often the sign "PAINT" painted in more or less graceful capitals as a warning to passers that a painter has been freshening the surface of the vicinity. Often the sign is painted with the **N** facing backward.

Why does the painter, after all his experience, put a dot over his capital **I**? He has seen the letter a thousand, a hundred thousand, times. But he has seen the small dotted **i** a million times. The majority rules him, and he gives the dot to the capital.

Why do some painters face the capital **N** backward? Lack of precise observation. A man of moderate observation can see that the two uprights of **N** are joined by a slanting line; but he does not note with care which way the slant falls. And so he is likely to draw it forward one time and backward an other time.

For many centuries the capital **N** varied as to the slant line. It was long before **N** became recognized as the only 'correct' form.

There is a moral in this. If such variations of elemental forms abound in this enlivened age, how can we say that no new variations of letters and no discriminations of existing variations can ever be introduced? Is not the force of stereotyped custom overestimated? As a matter of fact, stereotyped plates are broken and melted every day — and a good riddance, too, in most cases.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Now is a time to subscribe.

## A CONTROLLING MINORITY

The winter now on the wane has witnessed a good many expressions from the teachers assembled in conventions, institutes, and clubs, in regard to the simplification of English spelling. We have been informed of many cases in which resolutions favorable to the idea have been adopted. We have not heard of one case in which resolutions favorable to the idea have been defeated. When resolutions favorable to simplified spelling are proposed, they are adopted. Doubtless in most cases the persons who favor the idea have refrained from offering the resolution when it appeared likely that it would be defeated. And doubtless also, the resolutions that have been adopted, have been adopted sometimes with little enthusiasm on the part of the majority. But this merely proves the main fact. The principle and the practice of simplified spelling are now favored by a large minority of our teachers. This numerical minority may, if it will, become the controlling minority. The minority initiates, proposes, advocates, urges; and the majority is open to persuasion. If opponents are not converted, they become mild or silent—willing to wait and see the coming salvation.

In fact, they have no alternative. Can any one now name ten teachers or educators having a reputation for scholarship, who are willing to take in public an adverse attitude in regard to the principle?

## SCIENCE IN SIMPLIFICATION

The Simplified Spelling Board has not recommended any rules for the simplification of English spelling that are inconsistent with the scientific standard recommended and used by philologists and phoneticians.

It has not recommended any rules that are inconsistent with the scheme put forth by the Simplified Spelling Society.

It has, for good practical reasons, recommended a few temporary adjustments intended to abolish some minor irregularities, vexatious exceptions in a large class of words in which a larger irregularity appears. For example, the Board has recommended that we conform the spelling of the three words *exceed*, *proceed*, and *succeed* to the spelling of the greater number of words of the same class, *accede*, *concede*, *precede*, *recede*, *secede*, etc. This is, in effect, a recommendation that we may spell all the words of this kind alike—all like *precede*, or else all like *proceed*. In other words, any one may spell any words of this class in one way or the other. It is for the future to determine what shall be the 'final' spelling of such words.

The Simplified Spelling Board has not yet made any recommendation of a fixed or uniform notation of the long vowels and of the diphthongs. This difficulty has heretofore, for certain wise and good reasons, been boldly—postponed. The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain has now attacked the problem. If the Simplified Spelling Board should adopt the notations recommended by the Society, or should adopt other notations, it would then be in order to criticize it for its action on these points. At present it can be criticized only for its non-action; and for that there have been reasons, or at least causes.

There is thus no discrepancy between the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board and the recommendations of scientific scholars. The Board and its Advisory Council are not without a tinge of scientific learning in their membership. They have thus far recommended some of those parts of a scientific scheme that will, in their opinion, prove acceptable to the educated public, now, or soon. They will, in the

future, recommend other parts of a scientific scheme, or such a practical compromise as they and their supporters may, after due consideration, find expedient.

The Board and its Advisory Council are not committed to anything except the facts of science, the principles of reason and the dictates of progressiv common sense; and they are not committed *against* any proposal or plan that scholarship and science may now or hereafter recommend.

### "IDIOSYNCRASY"

A writer in a journal devoted to light natural history, referring to the use of modernized spelling in an other journal of like nature, expresses his disapproval, in an article that ends as follows: "'Douts' may well be 'exprest' whether such 'markt' editorial idiosyncrasies do more than add a peculiar grotesqueness from which both authors and readers would gladly be spared if their wishes were consulted."

Does this scientific gentleman know what an "idiosyncrasy" is? Can forty thousand teachers, can ten thousand men of science, can the leading filologists of the world, can the recognized leaders in education, can all the other reformers of spelling, by a process of study, investigation, reasoning and reflection, unite to form an "idiosyncrasy"? Would it not be well for these light gentlemen to learn the meaning of the long words they attempt to use? If they will look in the dictionary and find the meaning of "idiosyncrasy," they will find in the vicinity an other word which is sometimes used to characterize persons who utter words which they do not understand.

### SEEING CROOKED

A professor of Greek in a Massachusetts college, in renewing his subscription to the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, thus reflects upon his neighbors:

"The people up this way have an unsurpast horror of any 'meddling' with the newspaper spelling; they would far rather bury all their wife's relations, several times over, than part with a single (or duble) silent or any other kind of useless letter. I take great plesure in inflicting my simplicities upon my dignified collega, so far as they seem able to read things simply and correctly speld. But you know how hard it is for one long accus-tomd to see crooked to lern to see strait."

Can it be that there are any college professors who are not "able to read things simply and correctly speld"? Is there any professor of any

language who will admit in public that tho he is able to read ordinary English, he can not read it if some of the words are alterd in spelling? What should be the salary of a college professor who can not read any English book, printed in any English spelling that has been used since the invention of printing?

### MIXT OVER 'FIXT'

Several newspapers containd, in June, 1911, a paragraf variously manipulated so as to make it original with each newspaper. It appeard in one paper as follows:

"According to the *Literary Digest*, Woodrow Wilson recently remarked, apropos something or other, 'There is no fixt partnership.' If Governor Wilson really spells like this it should queer his presidential candidacy among people who respect their language."

An other paper quotes the same remark and adds:

"If that's an evidence of the 'scholar in politics,' it ought to fix him."

The most curious thing about these paragraphs is the fact that the writers assume that the spelling *fixt* is a recent and "unscholarly" spelling. If these gentlemen would enter the kindergarten of English literature, in which they might be permitted to handle the genuin works of competent writers, they would find that the spelling *fixt* occurs in Sackville (1563), Spenser (1590), Shakespeare (1608), Sylvester (1608), Heywood (1609), Niccols (1610), Feltham (1627), Habington (1640), Milton (1644), Quarles (1644), Walton (1653), Cowley (1656), Denham, Wotton, Butler, Dryden, Bunyan, Prior, Thomson, Young, Middleton, Cowper, Rogers, Thirlwall, Tennyson, to say nothing of innumerable other writers.

It is the spelling *fixed* that is now irregular and anomalous. That spelling was devized for expressing the pronunciation *fix'-ed*. It is still the correct spelling for the word so pronounst; but it is not, and it never was, the correct spelling for the word pronounst *fixt*.

The likè is true of the spelling *mixt*, which is, in fact, as the perfect participle, taken, thru old French, from the Latin *mixtus*, and is the true source of the infinitiv and present indicativ *mix*. That is, *mixt* existed not only before *mixed*, but before *mix*. *Mixt* occurs in the English Bible (1611) and was used by Latimer (1549), Spenser, Sidney, Lodge, Sylvester, Holland, Shakespeare, Drayton, Brerewood, Jonson, Bacon, Cowley, Walton, Fuller, Milton, Hobbes, Butler,

Bunyan, Ray, Addison, Pope, Prior, Watts, De Foe, Young, Wesley, Lowth, Shenstone, Cowper, Trumbull, Dickinson, Barlow, Bloomfield, Hare—literary authorities all familiar, of course, to candidates for the presidency. And yet a candidate, we are told, would be rejected (no, rejeckeded) if he should spell it *mixt*.

These kindergarten instructions will be repeated from time to time in the BULLETIN for the benefit of the editors of the great newspapers, if they will only consent to come to school and to learn a few of the elementary things which they do not know.

### GIDE-POST LEADERS

Dr. David Felmley, of Illinois, in returning some advanst proposals to the Board, with his approval, speaks and spells as follows:

"I sinserely trust the members of the Simplified Spelling Board and Advisory Council are not assuming the role of a gide-post and solemnly advizing uthers to travel a road that they do not follo themselves."

"The bearings of this observation lays in the application on it." The road of reform is indeed amply furnisht with gide-posts. And this shows great self-sacrifice. To an alert, eager mind, zelous for progres, nothing can be more tedious than to stand as a gide-post, merely to show where other men may go forward. But the required quota of gide-posts is now complete, and the opportunity is open for our reformers to volunteer for the more glorious part of pioneers, sappers and miners, warriors in the van, cutting down the "silent" letters which are vociferating in the thickets of English spelling.

### BEEES BUZZING

From different parts of the country we hear of a revival of "spelling bees." In some cases a chain of "spelling bees" is proposed, reaching from city to county and from county to state; and some wish to have "spelling bees" between different states. We approve these "spelling bees." They amuse the children and the parents, and in some cases they will bring illumination to the minds of those teachers and superintendents who think it is worth while to spend endless time and money upon teaching millions of children all the accidents and vagaries of English spelling, without giving them a definit standard to conform to or a principle to follow.

Some teachers and superintendents, hearing of the movement for the regulation of English

spelling, close their ears and shut their eyes, and in this scientific attitude look for the cause of bad spelling. One teacher has ascertained that "the fault is with the mothers," who do not drill their children in spelling by home lessons at night.

Some superintendents and boards of education are trying to solv the spelling difficulty by the old device of keeping lists of the "words commonly misspeld" by their pupils, and having these words drild and dind and hammerd and pounded into the reluctant heds of the children. The plan, if diligently pursued, will produce the desired result, namely, a list of all the words commonly misspeld by school children. But the process is needlessly expensiv. For a dollar you may buy a school dictionary containing most of the common words of the English language. There is your list of words commonly misspeld.

But all these experiments are worth making. After a time it may be expected that all superintendents and teachers will open their eyes and see the real cause of the difficulty, which is not in the minds of the children, or in the neglect of teachers, but in the spellings themselvs.

### IS SPELLING A LOST ART?

According to the newspapers there is frequent "complaint" among "business men," as well as among the inferior classes of the community, teachers, parents, and such, that pupils in school and college spell worse than the children of the preceding generation. It does not appear that any one has made an extensiv examination of the subject; and we do not know whether the "complaint" is well founded. We have no reason to believ that it is well founded. There is, indeed, we think, a greater amount of energy spent, in one way or another, upon English spelling today than a generation ago. Some of this energy is spent in trying to teach spelling by avoiding it, that is, in trying to teach words as "pictures." The result may be that the children thus experimented upon do not learn to spell so well as the children who are subjected to the harder regimen of looking at the letters of the words, and trying to remember, or to gess, how they are sounded.

We read (gess, reader, whether we mean *read* or *red*) this anecdote of a teacher who does not believ that children now spell worse than their predecessors: "She told of one gentleman who had been an excellent speller and whose

children were good spellers. The father told the children that he had been an expert lexicographer in his younger days and had made even better records than his children were making. By chance these youngsters came across some of their father's old compositions. The essays contained more bad spellings than the children had ever made in any one of their compositions."

This anecdote is a little suspicious, apart from the assumption that the father could have been an "expert lexicographer in his younger days" (some lexicographers being none too expert in their older days). There are two explanations possible. One is, that the father was a "bad speller" in his younger days—if so, he had plenty of company among great and good men. The other is, that the children took for "bad spellings" certain spellings in "their father's old compositions" that were orthodox in those times. Persons who have had grandfathers will find in their grandfathers' letters, a still greater variety of spellings. But those spellings were not bad spellings at that time. They were orthodox spellings, whipt into the little grandfathers by force of arm and sting of birch.

But what of it? There is no evil in the "bad spelling" itself. The evil is in the blind custom which it represents, and in the false position in which the orthodox spelling puts the persons who feel bound to use it and to teach it. The evil will be remedied only when the extent of "bad spelling," which is now concealed by the artificial and forced conformity of commercial print, is fully exposed.

## BREVITY NOT ALWAYS SIMPLICITY

One of the friends of simplified spelling who signs the card agreeing to use the simpler spellings that have been recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board, adds: "But I shall spell socks *sor* and sacks *sax*." This shows an independence of spirit, and from one point of view is reasonable. That is, if we are to spell *cs* or *ks* as *x* in some words, as *ax*, *tax*, *fox*, *ox*, etc., we ought to do so in all words of the same kind. But it is more scientific to suggest that as *x* stands for *cs* or *ks*, we should spell the words with the letters which indicate the sounds, just as we spell *cats*, *caps*, etc., with each sound represented. The use of *x* in Latin, of *x* (*xi*) and *ps* (*psi*) in Greek, and of *z* for *ts* in German, are accidents due to an imperfect analysis of sounds. While these single signs for two sounds take less space, they do not really conduce to

practical brevity and convenience. If the principle were sound, it would be advisable to invent single signs, not only for *cs* but for *sc*; not only for *ps* but for *sp*; not only for *ts* but for *st*; and likewise for *gz*, *bz*, *dz*. Ligatures of this kind do in fact abound in medieval manuscripts; but they were the unthinking devices of weary or lazy scribes, and have increast, not diminisht, the burden of their successors.

## LOOKING BACKWARD

When the Simplified Spelling Board began its work, many persons returned the blank card of agreement with the word "NOT" emphatically inserted before the verb "use," so that the card would read, "I will NOT use the simpler spellings that have been recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board." In course of time the stream of these negations began to trickle, and it has now almost entirely ceased. It was an agreeable surprize when the other day we received an other "NOT" card of this kind. It came from the intelligent State of Connecticut. We shall not give the name of this belated member of the Old Gard. With Charles Lamb, we venerate an honest obliquity of understanding; and there is something nobly Roman in a stony face with stony eyes bent on the receding past.

## NOD AWAY

The St. Joseph (Mo.) *Gazette* reports (Feb. 5):

"Mr. W. M. Oakerson, superintendent of public schools of Nodaway county, Mo., recently issued a challenge to President Henry Kirby Taylor of the Northwest State Normal for a spelling match between five young spellers, to be selected by Oakerson, and five old-timers, to be selected by President Taylor."

The challenge arose out of a statement by President Taylor, which he thus explains: "I have asserted nothing positively except that there is an overwhelming amount of bad spelling, and my belief is that sufficient attention is not given to this important subject."

By all means give it "sufficient attention." Spelling does not now receive more than twenty times the amount of attention it would receive if it were a rational study presented in a rational manner. Few children waste more than three years in learning to spell. This is not enuf. The superintendents should see to it that the children devote ten years to this waste of time.

## STRESS

In indicating the pronunciation of words, it is necessary to indicate not only the sounds, even tho imperfectly, as in the present so-cald spelling of English words, but also the place of the stress. Stress is an important factor in the pronunciation of all languages. It is especially important and significant in English and in German, where the primary stress is powerful.

There has never been a fixt usage in the marking of stress in English. It is desirable that the usage shall be uniform and definit. The following are the different methods employd, more or less laxly, by makers of dictionaries and spelling-books, and by writers on fonetics.

Primary stress is indicated by the chosen sign (1) over the vowel, (2) after the vowel, (3) before the vowel, (4) after the syllable, (5) before the syllable. The chosen sign is (1) a line or wedge slanting downward to the left ('), and known, from its use in a different connection, as an 'acute accent'; or (3) a line or wedge slanting downward to the right ('), and known as a 'grave accent'; or (3) a dot (a turnd period) on a line with the top of the small letters, thus a' or 'a; or (4) some other mark.

Secondary stress is markt in similar ways: (1) by two acute accents; (2) by a single light accent, thinner than the mark used for the primary accent; (3) by a grave accent; (4) by a turnd period; (5) by a small colon.

The theory which is put forth to justify the placing of the mark of stress before the strest vowel or before the strest syllable is rather weak. It is that the reader should be informd which vowel or syllable is strest, "before he comes to it." But the reader sees the whole word instantaneously, and can see the mark after the letter just as soon as he can see it before the letter. The common use of the so-cald 'acute accent' after the strest vowel makes the use of that mark before the strest vowel ambiguous. The reader assumes that the accent points to the strest letter. To meet this, some have used a grave accent before the letter. The grave accent thus points to the letter that is strest. Any sure way will do; but the way should be determined, and the signs provided. Teachers, and printers may well demand that experts consider these uncertainties and recommend a rational and uniform notation of stress, both as to the form of the sign, and as to its position.

In any accurate work the secondary stress should always be markt. The absence, or the

little use, of a mark for secondary stress in dictionaries, spelling-books and text-books is no dout one of the causes of the slurring pronunciation common in Great Britain, and to a less extent in the United States. All words of four syllables have normally at least two stresses. The notion that they have not two stresses has led to the teaching that they *ought* not to have two stresses; and we are thus deliberately taught to pronounce words like *ordinarily*, *inexplicably*, *determinatively* with only one stress. Of course those who make the attempt always give a secondary accent, but it is often misplaced. The whole matter is not understood as it should be. The doctrin of stress and stress-marking calls for statement by experts, not by compilers.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

On Cottage Grove avenue, Chicago, there is a signboard advertizing a "lattis-truss."

A hatter, one of a trade notorious for imagination and fine frenzy, takes his fill of "fillosofy" in that form. This is "calculated," as the newspapers say, to make the conservativs as mad as so many hatters.

A baker in San Francisco tells the public that he makes "Holsum Bread." Other bakers make "Wholesome Bread." Some day they will be making "Holsum Bred," which is as short and sweet as any baker can make it.

Over the counter in a German bakery on Second avenue and 29th street, New York, the following home-made sign appears:

**RY BREAD.**  
**WITE BREAD.**  
**HOMET BREAD.**

We have seen in an other city a painted sign:  
**HOMADE BAKERY.**

Evidently a home industry.

"Kookt Otes" is a preparation to tempt those graminivorous folk who, unlike the horse, shrink from bolting their brekfast food in the raw. Are oats ever really cookt?

Cobb's Studio, Atlantic City, advertizes "Fotographs." If the pictures are like the spelling, they are only 'half bad.'

Some business men use the spelling 'tele-fone'; and their 'telephone' is always in order.

Typewriter ribbons are an item of expense. The Renu Ribn Co., of Marshalltown, Iowa, puts up a solution for "renuing the ribn." The spelling 'ribn' in this 'popular' business set-

ting, looks 'odd.' It shows that notions hitherto confined to fonetic 'radicals' may penetrate into 'business' intelligence.

### FRANCIS ANDREW MARCH

The American Philological Association, in session at Pittsburg December 29, 1911, adopted the following resolution in honor of the late Professor Francis Andrew March, upon the recommendation of a special committee consisting of Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, Professor Thomas D. Goodell of Yale University, now President of the Association, and Professor William G. Hale, of the University of Chicago:

The members of the American Philological Association record their sense of the loss to this society and to scholarship, in the death, in September last, of their eminent colleague Professor FRANCIS ANDREW MARCH.

He was one of the founders of this Association, was twice its President, and was for many years a member of its Executive Committee. He was always a faithful attendant at the meetings of the Association, to which he contributed papers and discussions of unique interest. He was a wise counsellor and a kindly leader. By his life and his works he brought honor to his country, and to American scholarship; and this Association gratefully records his name as that of one of its great leaders, whose example will remain an inspiration to all who knew him, or who reverence the ideas of truth to which he was devoted.

The "American Year Book for 1911," in its notice of simplified spelling, speaks as follows regarding Professor March:

Professor March was the leader among the scholars who more than 30 years ago gave their attention to the promotion of the movement for the regulation and simplification of English spelling. It was at his instigation that the American Philological Association appointed a standing committee which made an investigation of the matter, approved the change, and recommended definite steps for bringing it about. The establishment of the Simplified Spelling Board, provided with money for the work, was the ultimate result of these efforts.

In an other article in the "American Year Book" (on "English Literature"), Prof. Clarence G. Child thus speaks of the same eminent man:

During the year Francis Andrew March died, at the age of 86—a scholar of world-wide eminence in English philology and letters, a pioneer and chief influence in promoting English studies, a great teacher, and a source of inspiration to numberless students throughout his long and active life.

### LEAFLET LESSONS

In the BULLETIN for March, 1911, we printed three of the little Leaflets issued by the Board. Here are three more. The lessons these leaflets teach are different from those usually found in spelling books. They make the pupil stop and *think* about the words he spells. The leaflets are furnished free on request to any one who can use them to advantage. They are of convenient size to inclose in envelopes with your letters, especially if you use simplified forms in your correspondence. Ten leaflets have been published, printed on both sides, twenty pages.

#### DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE!

bobbed	bagged	belled
clubbed	dragged	billed
ribbed	logged	felled
robbed	plugged	filled
rubbed	tugged	polled
dimmed	canned	charred
hummed	dinned	furred
jammed	penned	marred
rammed	punned	spurred
rimmed	tanned	
bobd	bagd	beld
clubd	dragd	bild
ribd	logd	feld
robd	plugd	fild
rubd	tugd	pold
dimd	cand	chard
humd	dind	furd
jamd	pend	mard
ramd	pund	spard
rimd	tand	spurd

#### PLUS -UE

log	brog	catalog	catalogUE
bog	clog	decalog	decalogUE
cog	flog	dialog	dialogUE
dog	frog	epilog	epilogUE
fog	grog	monolog	monologUE
hog	prog	prolog	prologUE
jog	shog	demagog	demagogUE
nog	agog	pedagog	pedagogUE

#### PLUS -UGH

ago	no	halo	althoUGH
fro	so	hero	thoUGH
go	wo	motto	boroUGH
ho	canto	quarto	thoroUGH
lo	cargo	veto	furloUGH

### CONFORMITY AND CAGES

Some persons ask us why some of the eminent public men who have declared themselves in favor of amended spelling, do not use such spelling in the public press. We know not. They are of age; ask them. They shall speak for themselves.

But we can suggest an explanation. When a public man writes a letter the newspapers will print it, if it seems at the moment to be "good copy." If he writes it in modernized spelling, they will change his spelling to suit their ancient custom. If he insists on having the letter printed in his own spelling—but how many public men insist upon ideas that are not popular, or that do not promise to be popular soon? We hear of 'radicals' and 'conservativs,' 'progressivs' and 'stand-patters,' but most public men belong to one party—the Conformitarians. They are in favor of all good things, but of Conformity first. There is no safer 'conservativ' than your vocal 'progressiv'; and your fierce 'insurgent' is usually a canary out for a lark—he will soon hop back into his cage.

Some public men, however, are peculiar. They will not be caged. Mr. Andrew Carnegie, for example, uses a progressiv spelling of English. When he writes a letter, no matter on what subject, no matter to whom it may be addressed, he spells in a modern way; and the recipients may grin or groan, just as they please. And the newspapers must print his letters as he spells them, or else falsify the record. And that, of course, they would never do.

But not all men can expect equal attention. Moreover, ideas are more important than any spelling; and it is certain that a letter printed in the conventional spelling will reach more readers than a letter speld in the new way, and dumpt, unprinted, into the waste-basket, in the old way.

No man can enter into public life except thru the gate of conformity. It is an entangling alliance. Pity the sorrows of a public man, whose trembling course has borne him where he is; he'll change his course as soon as he well can—O, give your vote, and he will promise his!

### A WORDSWORTH CONCORDANCE

The American Concordance Society has just published "A Complete Concordance to the Poems of Wordsworth", a volume that will be of permanent value to all students of English literature. Prepared in a scientific manner by leading members of the Society, with the cooperation

of some thirty persons, and edited by Prof. Lane Cooper of Cornell University, it gives a complete alphabetic list of all the words and forms used in Wordsworth's poems, each with a one-line quotation and an exact reference.

Here one can see the range of Wordsworth's ideas—his interest in poetry, in education, in politics; his notions of fancy, imagination, patriotism; of "England, Home and Beauty". One can see, too, the precise forms and spellings that appear in the authorized editions of this poet. The entries are correct transcripts of the facts. One can therefore find many simplified spellings, like *crost*, *drest*, *dropt*, *snapt*, *surpast*, *unsupprest*, and the like, together with *tho'* and *thro'*. The more conventional forms are also recorded; but no evidence is suppressed.

### ALARUMS AND EXCURSIONS

A literary periodical of some note uses some simplified spellings, not enough to scare a reasonably bold kitten, but sufficient to alarm a fine old gentleman in New Brunswick, who has thus expressed his indignation, with his own indignant hand and grammar:

"I regret to observe that the spelling being quite in a language unknown to me I cannot receive the periodical in my house."

He therefore cancels his subscription, and wraps himself in his poor but honest erudition. We regret to observe that his spelling being quite in a language unknown to us we can not receive his arguments in our columns.

An other heroic soul, in the far West, sent to the same periodical a few stamps to pay his subscription "until some time in the coming summer, at which time if you have not quit your silly spelling please cease to send me your magazine, for it makes me mad every time I sit down to read it."

Why not sit up—and take notice?

### SIMPLICITY AT HOME

Reform, like other curses, sometimes comes home to roost. In the house of a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, the electric bell one morning ceased to perform its duties. The maid soon found this out, and by way of precaution she wrote a note and pinned it on the door-post. And she wrote it as follows:

If the Bell dont  
Ring  
Please Nock.

The maid had recently come over from a green island, and it was instinct rather than knowledge that made her use simplified spelling in a place devoted to simplicity.

And now comes this note from a professor of Romance filology in Mexico:

"There is a curio store cald 'The Hole in the Wall' oppozit the Alameda in Mexico City. A conspicuous sine-board abuv the dore bairs the legend 'Open—nock.'"

At this rate, one of the candidates for president of the United States will be spelling his hopes in a still more "progressiv" form, namely, that an other candidate might be "noct intu a coct hat."

### CATT AND DOGG

There is one simplification of spelling that has been almost completely carried out in English, altho the old form still lingers in German. We refer to the simplification of a double consonant after a short strest vowel in a monosyllable, as in *cat*, *dog*, *rub*, which were preceded by *catt*, *dogg*, *rubb*, and earlier by *catte*, *dogge*, *rubbe*, and so forth. The only relics of the archaic spelling left in common use are *burr*, *ebb*, *egg*, *err*, *inn*, *purrr*, and the words having double *f*, double *l*, or double *s* (*chaff*, *cliff*, etc., *bell*, *bill*, *bull*, etc., *bless*, *cross*, etc.). *Binn*, tho used by Dickens, has disappeard (like the coal we put there last fall), and *bunn* is disappearing; but *banns* are still publisht; and we occasionally meet *nett* and *sett* in commercial use.

Double spellings of this kind lingerd until the beginning of the 18th century. The following are found in James Howell's "Lexicon Tetraglotton," 1660:

Capp, catt, clapp, coott, cupp, cutt, dogg, gett, hott, knitt, lapp, nett, pigg, pott, ratt, shipp, shopp, tapp, trott, winn, witt, etc.

But tho Howell used such spellings in a period of transition, he promoted the transition, and used many simplifications which became accepted usage in the next generation.

### AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

We call the attention of our readers to the principles and purposes of the American Dialect Society. This Society, which has been in existence for some years, has, with small means, publisht a number of glossaries of different dialects in the United States, and has collected many thousand slips containing records of words and pronunciations that come under the hed of dialect or

of deviations from supposed standard use. The officers of the Society are:

*President*—Prof. Calvin Thomas, Columbia University

*Vice-President*—Dr. Charles P. G. Scott

*Secretary*—Prof. W. E. Mead, Wesleyan University

*Treasurer*—Prof. George P. Krapp, Columbia University

*Editorial Committee*—Prof. Charles H. Grandgent and Prof. Edward S. Sheldon, Harvard University

The promoters of this Society are chiefly filologists, who, of course, are in sympathy with the movement for the reformation of English spelling. As the notation of dialect words can not be accurately made without the use of scientific spelling, the two lines of study have much in common.

The dues are one dollar a year, for which subscribers receiv the numbers of *Dialect Notes* publisht within the year. The Society desires contributions from persons who may be willing to observ and to record any words or pronunciations that appear to be local, dialectal, or archaic, or new. Full information may be had from the Secretary.

### 'THRU' IS NOT THROUGH

The *Journal of Education*, on November 22, 1906, printed the following terse editorial:

"Farewell 'thru'."

Since that time many thousands of teachers thruout the United States and Canada have signd the agreement to use the simplified spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board; several hundred periodicals have adopted those spellings; and a great many of the leading officials and a great many leading educators, including state, county and city superintendents, the United States Commissioner of Education, and the Superintendent of Education of Nova Scotia, have differd from the editor of the *Journal of Education*.

And *thru* is not bidding any one farewell. And the hysterics of the opposition have subsided into an occasional whimper.

### CHRISTIAN WORK

The *Christian Work and Evangelist*, January 20, 1912, contains a long article on "bad spells" in the form of a dialog between a champion of modern spelling and an adherent of the medieval spelling. The issue of February 10 contains a letter giving part of an address by Rev. A. B. Curtis, of Jackson, Mich., denouncing the futilities and stupidities of the medieval spelling.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

"The American Year Book, A Record of Events and Progress, 1911," edited by Francis G. Wickware, and published by D. Appleton and Company in January, 1912, contains an article on "Simplified Spelling," by Charles P. G. Scott. The article sketches the progress of the movement in the year 1911, and refers especially to the Conference held in London, September 4-12, between the delegates of the Simplified Spelling Board and delegates of the Simplified Spelling Society.

The *Daily Gazette*, of Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, January 27, 1912, contains a criticism of the scheme put forth by the Simplified Spelling Society. It says: "It is ridiculous to try to spell all English words phonetically by means of an alphabet not adapted for the purpose." Citing the cases of "riechnus" and "diet," it adds: "Consistent phonetic spelling requires that the same characters when placed in the same relation to one another shall always represent the same sound, as in shorthand." It deprecates "injudicious haste," and says: "the movement is making satisfactory progress as so far conducted, when it is remembered that the present spelling is the growth in most cases of centuries."

We have frequent requests from public libraries for copies of our circulars and of the BULLETIN. Some libraries request odd numbers of the circulars to complete their files; others request complete sets of the publications or binding. One librarian writes: "I have just had the circulars of the Board bound, and am very proud of the volume." All libraries may have, free, on request, copies of the regular circulars of the Board, and of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN. It is right that authoritative information on the subject of Simplified Spelling should be accessible to users of public libraries. One may well expect that he will find in his local library correct information on one of the great educational movements of the day, particularly in view of the fact that such information is not supplied by the newspapers. We have heard of one library in a town of Massachusetts, the trustees of which refused to admit any literature pertaining to Simplified Spelling; but such libraries as the Boston Public Library, the New York Public Library, and other large city and university libraries, not only admit and preserve the publications of the Board, but subscribe for the BULLETIN.

Professor Brander Matthews delivered a lecture February 26, 1912, at Witherspoon Hall, Philadelphia, in the University Extension Course, on "English Spelling, as It Is, and as It Ought to Be."

It is announced that the Simplified Spelling Society will publish a journal. In this journal simplified spelling of an advanced kind will be used, altho it is well known to journalists that the use of any simplified spelling is both very expensive and very fatal. This is the universal experience of newspaper men who have never tried it.

Some newspapers are offering, as a lure to subscribers, a production romantically called "Webster's New Standard Dictionary, Illustrated," and sometimes ingeniously, if not ingenuously, described by the name of the newspaper offering it, as "The *Post-Star* Dictionary," or "The *Evening Bulletin* Dictionary," or the like. This work is advertised to contain, among other special "up-to-date" information, lists of simplified spellings, with the rules and reasons therefor. We can not guarantee the accuracy of these rules and lists; but the fact that information about simplified spelling is now made one of the inducements for subscribing to a newspaper, is worth recording.

Mr. Ben G. Green of Chicago issues a catalog of his "Sixty-Third Auction Sale of United States, Foreign and Ancient Coins," etc., cataloged by himself. The catalog contains many simplified spellings, including "foreign gold," "foreign silver," "foreign copper," "foreign nickel." "Greek scholars" will be horrified to know that Mr. Green offers for sale "tetradrams" and "octodrams." It is true that the Greeks who issued these coins never saw *tetradram* and *octodram*. But then they never saw *tetradrachm* and *octodrachm*. Modern persons may be allowed to choose between these two sets of modern forms; and, as they say (not very often) *tetradram* and *octodram*, they might as well spell them so.

Simplified spellings are used in the H. W. Wilson Co.'s (Minneapolis, Minn.) "Directory of Booksellers, Newsdealers, and Stationers in the United States and Canada."

*Idaho Country Life*, a periodical published by the students of the University of Idaho, uses simplified spelling in its columns.

Volume III ends here. Now is a time to subscribe. Ten cents; and your name.

DEC 24 1923

Ed

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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No. 1

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## SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board was held at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 2 and 3, 1912, Vice-President Homer H. Seerley in the chair.

### ATTENDANCE

The following members of the Board were present:

William Archer, James W. Bright, Clarence G. Child, George O. Curme, Melvil Dewey, Oliver Farrar Emerson, Charles H. Grandgent, George Hempl, Henry Holt, Alexander H. Mackay, Brander Matthews, Charles P. G. Scott, Homer H. Seerley, Benjamin E. Smith, Z. X. Snyder, David Soloan, Calvin Thomas, E. O. Vaile, William Hayes Ward, Andrew D. White.

Of the Advisory Council there were present:

Katherine D. Blake, W. G. Chambers, W. T. Foster, A. V. W. Jackson, L. F. Mott, H. G. Paine, H. A. Todd, Raymond Weeks, G. M. Whicher.

Among those who sent letters of regret were:

E. Benjamin Andrews, O. C. Blackmer, Richard Burton, David Felmley, John R. Kirk, William F. MacLean, Thomas R. Lounsbury.

### ELECTION OF OFFISERS

President Thomas R. Lounsbury, who had agreed a year ago, against his own wish, to continue as President for an other term, sent a letter announcing that, owing to uncertain helth, he could no longer undertake to serv as President. He exprest his gratification at the progress the cause of Simplified Spelling had made under the efforts and thru the guidance of the Board, and predicted its certain success. The following committee was appointed to nominate offisers for the ensuing year: Professors Emerson, Hempl, and Bright.

At the second session on Wednesday, April 3, the committee made the following nominations, and the persons named were unanimously elected:

**PRESIDENT:** Professor Charles H. Grandgent, of Harvard University.

**VICE-PRESIDENTS:** William Archer, of London; Andrew Carnegie, of New York; Dr. David Starr Jordan, President of Stanford University; Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale University; Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia; Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Teachers College; Professor Walter W. Skeat, of Cambridge University; Dr. Andrew D. White, Cornell University; Dr. Robert S. Woodward, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C.

**EXECUTIV COMMITTEE:** Professor Clarence G. Child, Dr. Isaac K. Funk, Mr. Henry Holt, Professor Brander Matthews, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, Professor Calvin Thomas, Dr. William Hayes Ward.

At the first meeting of the new Executiv Committee, April 10, 1912, Professor Calvin Thomas was reelected Chairman. Dr. Charles P. G. Scott was reelected Secretary, and was also elected Tresurer.

### MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

A committee was appointed on Tuesday to draw up memorial resolutions in regard to the loss of three distinguisht members of the Board during the year, namely: Professor Francis A. March, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, and Colonel Charles E. Sprague. For this purpose the Chair appointed the following committee: Professor Clarence G. Child, Professor Charles H. Grandgent, and Dr. Benjamin E.

Smith. On the following day the committee presented as their report the minutes which appear elsewhere in this BULLETIN.

Owing to the recent death of Colonel Sprague, it had been decided not to hold the public dinner usually given at the time of the Annual Meeting.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Secretary, acting as Treasurer *pro tem.*, elected as such after Colonel Sprague's death, read the report of the transactions of the past fiscal year, as presented by Colonel Sprague at the last meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The report of the Secretary was read at the first session. It contained a summary of the year's work. The following extracts are here printed:

##### GENERAL PROPAGANDA

The general work of propaganda, within the limits of our means, has been steadily continued. The list of Signers has continued to increase. There have been no withdrawals. Inquiries come in by every mail, with the invariable result of securing a large proportion of the inquirers as permanent adherents. Several hundred thousand of our different circulars have been distributed. The BULLETIN has been made as widely known as possible. Simplified spelling has been introduced into additional schools, has been employed in some additional periodicals, including two or three publications of Normal Schools and Colleges. It has also been introduced into a number of books and filological papers, among which I mention those of Prof. Carl C. Rice and Prof. George H. Danton.

##### THE BULLETIN

The publication of the BULLETIN has continued with the results that may be expected from the publication of a periodical that appears only four times a year and reaches only a few thousand persons. The BULLETIN has been sent to all the members of the Board and Council, whether they have subscribed or not, and they have thus been informed of the principal items of our progress and development during the past year. The BULLETIN may be regarded as a part of the annual report of the Executive Committee. For some of these items of information in the BULLETIN we have been indebted to different members of the Board and Council, who have sent us letters and clippings from newspapers. In behalf of the editor, I may say that such contributions are acceptable. . . .

#### PROGRESS OF VOCABULARY

The Vocabulary of Simplified Spellings, which was mentioned at the last Annual Meeting as in preparation by the Executive Committee, has been in further process of preparation, in the only manner that seemed likely to produce any substantial results, namely, by the consideration, in successive meetings of the Committee, of successive sections of the general English vocabulary as contained in a concise and abridged dictionary. At these meetings each word, or class of words to which it belongs, was considered. The correct simplification, according to a recognized or a latent standard, or the simplification that seemed most likely to be accepted by the majority of the Board and Council at the present stage of proceedings, was provisionally selected. At length the whole Vocabulary was in type, with the latter part revised according to the conclusions so far reached by the Committee, while the earlier part contained many tentative simplifications adopted at previous meetings, and awaiting the application of the conclusions.

##### REVISION DEFERRED

Having come to the end of the alphabet, the Committee decided to defer the revision of the partly simplified Vocabulary, and the consequent alteration of the types, until a further list of simplifications should be submitted to the Board and Council, and until, also, the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Society should have been considered by the said members. . . . To submit the whole Vocabulary to the Board and Council for their formal approval or disapproval, as has been done with the three former lists and with the fourth list pending, would be possible; but it could hardly result in a final simplified vocabulary that could be recommended to the public as the final and settled opinion of all the members of the Board and of the Advisory Council. Until a notation of the long vowels and of the diphthongs is attained, any vocabulary of spellings must remain in great part unsimplified. You may have simplified *spellings* of particular words; but you can not have simplified *spelling* as a system, without a definite spelling, that is, a definite notation, of each particular sound. . . .

##### MORAL

In the much regretted absence of our President, you will be deprived of the words of comfort and admonition which he alone could give. But as no report should be without a moral, I shall venture to add a moral of my own. It is

this: All the progress that has been made in the diffusion and adoption of simplified spelling has been made by the action of individuals—individual expression of opinion, individual adoption of simplifications, individual invitations to co-operation. 'Progress' does nothing. 'Time' does nothing. Only living beings do anything. A good many members of the Board and Council have actually used simplified spelling in their own handwriting, in their typewriting, and some in their print. No disastrous results are known to have occurred to any one. The practice is increasing, and altho in many positions, especially in official positions, the use of simplified spelling may still seem inexpedient, there are many places where the banner of simplified spelling could be set up without effective opposition or even appreciable censure. In respect to private correspondence, the field is open to every individual; and if every member of this Board, and every member of the Advisory Council, would henceforth frequently or habitually use simplified spelling, and would make an effort to secure the appearance on appropriate occasions of his letters and papers in some degree of simplified spelling, the cause would be greatly advanced. As one of our members has put it, too many reformers are inclined to take the office of a guide-post, and thus to point bravely the road of reform, while taking no steps themselves. We need guide-posts, but if the road of reform is not traveled by some more pedestrians, to say nothing of those who prefer the more rapid rate of vehicular progression, the grass will grow, and the evening sun will throw a tender but fading light upon the faithful guide-post, with its sturdy motto, "Here I am, here I stay."

#### COME!

But there was in ancient times a certain centurion who said: "I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me; and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doth it." We may be sure that more was accomplished when the captain said "Come" than when he said "Go." Three verbs make up our daily life: Come, Go, Stay; but the greatest of these is Come.

#### PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS

At the morning session of Wednesday the business consisted of a report of the Secretary upon the result of the voting of the members of the Board and Advisory Council upon certain

proposed rules for the further simplification of spelling, which had been before both bodies since January. The matter is not yet concluded, but the complete report will appear in a later BULLETIN.

Professor George O. Curme, one of the new members of the Board, spoke upon the notation of the long vowels and the diphthongs.

In the afternoon, Mr. William Archer, Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, set forth at considerable length and with great clearness the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Society, and the views of its leading members. Part of his address is printed on another page.

#### A CHINESE PROBLEM

Dr. Melvil Dewey read a paper in the form of an oral address entitled "A Chinese Puzzle". He said, among other things:

The present upheaval in China gives promise of the adoption of English by the Chinese as their language of outside communication. It is quite possible they might avoid the heavy incumbrances of our present spelling. The Chinese puzzle is, *how* may we help them to do this? . . . The problem faces China now. The tendency there, I understand, is very greatly toward English. It would be a crime to teach a nation already so far behind in the spread of knowledge our present cumbersome English spelling. To reach these people with effective guidance for simplification would be the greatest single step ever taken in such a work. That is the thought which I ask those who are here today to consider, in the belief that they can make practical and helpful suggestions to that end.

The general subject of the relation of the English language to the peoples and languages of the Far East, which has been a matter of much discussion and correspondence since the organization of the Board, was discussed by many members.

#### DR. WHITE'S HOPEFUL VIEW

Dr. Andrew D. White, who was formerly minister to Russia, and also to Germany, made a speech from which we take these extracts:

I sincerely believe that we shall see the beginning of a movement toward the adoption of the English language by China at no distant day. There was a myth, or legend, current some years ago that Professor William D. Whitney had been approached by a Chinese emissary to learn if he could devise a simplified English language, with, of course, a simplified English spelling, for use in China. I always meant to verify this, but failed to do so.

It did not seem unnatural, however; because aside from its spelling, English is by far the

simplest language, and the easiest to acquire, that is possess by any nation. Evidence that the Chinese have thought favorably of its adoption has come to me thru other channels. Other nations are likely to put forward the advantages of their own tungs; but our chances in the race are good. The suggestion really opens up a most prodigious vista. It is the greatest opportunity ever proposed to any nation—to make the English Bible and English literature the stepping-stones to English culture in China. . . . It is not so chimerical as it looks. . . . I hope it will be thoughtfully considered by all our members. It would be a magnificent thing if this organization could give an impetus, even a slight impetus, to the movement. It has always been a dream of mine that English might secure a foothold in China.

Mr. Chairman, I desire to express the most earnest hope, as a man who has thought deeply on the subject, that this suggestion will be followed up. Let us think about it, and talk about it, and see what we can do to bring it about.

#### FURTHER DISCUSSION

Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education of Nova Scotia, urged that an effort be made to get in touch with the Ministers of Education both in China and in Japan, not only with reference to the romanization of the Chinese and Japanese modes of writing, but to the introduction into those countries of English in a simplified spelling.

Dr. Child gave his impressions of the Chinese students in the University of Pennsylvania:

Personally I have a high respect for the Chinese student. . . . The Chinese student generally knows English well, studies well, and graduates well up. Of course, we must remember they are pickt men. . . . I emfasize these points simply to show that these students are intellectual men. I could name a dozen of them who might do much for the cause when they return to China.

Dr. Ward said we should remember that there is already in China a society with the purpose of spelling the Chinese language with English letters, to be done, he understood, with the missionary alphabet. He added: "I have an impression that the Chinese language is a very decent one, and that the Chinese will not give it up easily; and I do not believe in trying, for the next five hundred years, to do more than to make English the language of commerce and diplomacy."

#### CIRCULATING THE BULLETIN

Dr. Dewey proposed that the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN should be more widely circulated. It is now sent, regularly, only to subscribers, to about 300 newspapers, and to many

public libraries (some subscribing, some not), and to all the members of the Board and Council. Because of the expense, it is not sent, as a matter of course, to all the host of Signers. Free copies are sent to all inquirers.

Dr. Seerley, in the Chair, said: "I can report that my copy goes into the library (of the Iowa State Teachers College), and is read more than anything that goes in there, both by students and faculty."

Dr. Soloan suggested that the BULLETIN might be sent out by the various members with their compliments.

The Secretary said that Dr. Soloan and Dr. MacKay had not only suggested, but employed effective methods of disseminating the BULLETIN. They had subscribed for a large number of copies to be sent to educators and others in Canada. The Secretary said further that, if the BULLETIN were to be sent free to all the Signers and also to the great host of the unconverted—provided, of course, that the expense of free distribution could be arranged—its character would have to be adapted to these diverse purposes.

#### S. S. S. SCHEME OF NOTATION

The Simplified Spelling Society has printed its scheme of notation on a small card, that can be easily enclosed in letters. We represent by italic type what the original shows in red:

##### THE SIMPLIFIED SPELLING IN BRIEF

bet	pet	dip	tip	got	cot
met	net	ring	N.B.	linger	thinc
win	whim	van	fan	this	thing
so	zest	vizhon	sheen	jest	cheer
yes	hapy	left	riet		

glad	best	lily	song	bud	good	volym
faather	star	maid	fair	laud	lord	
{ leed	{ liet	{ loed	{ buun	{ dyuety		
{ seing	{ dial	{ going	{ juel	{ dyual		
{ we	{ mi	{ tho	{ thru	{ dyu		
joi	mount	curl	sister			

It will be seen that ee, ie, oe, uu, yue, may be reduced before another vowel or finally.

On the reverse side of the card are the name and address of the Society, with this quotation from one of our own leaders, Professor Whitney:

It is the generations of children to come who appeal to us to save them from the affliction which we have endured and forgotten.—WHITNEY.

A full statement of the Society's plan will appear in our next number. Specimens are printed on pages 13 and 14.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

*Extracts from the Address of Mr. William Archer at the Sixth Annual Meeting of the S. S. B.*

We in Great Britain value highly the open-mindedness and loyalty displayed by our American colleagues at the conference in London last year. In spite of the very considerable differences of opinion held and expressed, the purpose on both sides was, of course, the same—to educate the public, and especially the teaching profession. We accept your judgment of the best method for your side; and you do the same, I am sure, for ours. We feel that, whatever criticism may be past upon it, our scheme, as it stands, does really solve the problem of reducing the educational time of children; and that if it could be introduced by fiat tomorrow, even with all its sins on its head, it would save at least a year to the children in the schools.

## KNOW WHAT IT MEANS

The public eye will never be accustomed to a form of writing that it can't be got to look at, and it can't be got to look at anything so unfamiliar as to require study. You know, and we know, that our scheme is full of objections from the scientific and fonetic side. For instance, we use *ie* for the long *i* sound. We know that fonetically it should be *ai*. The latter is much better, but takes some time for comprehension. Yet, however much those who criticize *ie* dislike it and protest against it, they do know what it means, and read it successfully without study. They also write it. We constantly get "first attempt" letters that are almost entirely correct. The results of our four or five months' experiment has more than borne out our expectations. People are interested in our scheme. They are writing it, using it, approving it, and joining the Society. We have added three or four distinguished names to our list of vice-presidents. . .

## A LIVE ISSUE

We are trying to force the idea of simplification on our educational authorities; and that is not difficult. The vast majority is theoretically on our side already. Beyond that, we are trying to make it a live issue in the public mind in order to bring the subject home to our educational authorities. Then the government authorities will make an investigation into it. Had our scheme been revealed in tables of stone on Mt. Sinai, we could not expect the educational authorities to accept it without consideration.

## NOT A FINAL FORM

Our present form is entirely provisional, a weapon of propaganda, a tool of campaign. I do not regard it, nor want it, as a final form. With Professor Thomas, I do not believe in any scheme of twenty-three letters for forty-odd sounds. We do not effect any considerable economy of letters with our scheme—only about four per cent. No scheme that does not adopt the cardinal principle of "one sound, one symbol," can effect any satisfactory economy. I do not think it worth while to try to perfect our scheme now. We must leave that to the great international conference that I think we must have if we are ever to reach a completely satisfactory system. Our scheme is not a standard to be defended; it is a way, an instrument, for bringing methods of reform home to the public. Not all of you, perhaps, realize how difficult it is to get the ordinary layman to understand the problem of simplification.

## TWO LINES OF CRITICISM

In such a compromise as we have adopted, we are always open to two lines of criticism. On the one side are those who tell us we are too radical. To them our reply is very simple: "Produce a scheme that departs less from current forms and yet saves a substantial time in education." We do not believe that any system of simplification that does not deal with the long vowels can effect a substantial saving in education time, nor that any scheme that does attempt the long vowels can be made less radical than ours. On the other hand, to those who say that we have not been sufficiently scientific, we answer: "When the time comes for definite consideration, by educational authorities, of the system to be adopted, then will be the time to bring forward the scientific plea. Then my colleagues and I will be in favor of a very considerable approach to scientific accuracy." I quite believe the ultimate scheme will include a certain number of new letters. No good system, I think, can be elegant without them. In the meantime, however, we are not attempting to solve these questions. . .

## PREACHING TO THE CONVERTED

Before closing, let me tell you a little of our experience in propaganda. We have started a series of lectures, most of them before educational bodies. My experience is that our audiences are almost always favorable to simplification; that we are in a great measure preaching to the converted, who have rejected in advance the stock arguments of conservatism.

The only point a little discouraging is that we don't find a very large proportion ready to back their enthusiasm even to the extent of the one shilling that is our membership fee. You were wiser, I think, in calling for the signed card only. We shall have to follow your example, I believe.

#### LETTERS FROM PARENTS

We have received requests from Germany for books in our spelling as a basis for teaching. We have also received a good many letters from parents in England who have read our literature, and who ask: "Do you recommend me to use your system in teaching my child?" Our answer has been: "If your child's career is likely to depend upon examinations, we doubt the wisdom of this step; for the child will master our system so easily that we doubt if it will ever have the patience to acquire the present cumbersome spelling." On the other hand, if the career of the child is not likely to be dependent on the verdict of examining boards, we encourage the parent to adopt our system.

#### IN NOVA SCOTIA

The *Journal of Education* of Nova Scotia, for April, 1912, contains (p. 164-168) an article on "Simplified Spelling," commending the movement on grounds of reason and common sense, and for the reason that "in addition to the leading language authorities of the English, Scotch and American universities" (some of whom it names) "a daily increasing host of literary, educational and business leaders are supporting the movement which the *Journal of Education* is pleased to aid in a manner causing the least inconvenience possible, thus helping to carry out the unanimous recommendation of the Imperial Official Education Conference of 1911, London, England." The article states that "The English Board of Education has already begun to act upon the unanimous recommendation of the Conference, by sending circular information to the Education departments of the Empire, with lists of texts on English language and phonetics, to enable those dealing with the problem to obtain the soundest scholarly information possible."

The article refers to the simplified spellings found in Tennyson and Browning, and takes the modern position in regard to *thru* and *program*. It reviews the "new English movement" as represented by the Simplified Spelling Society.

In the same *Journal* is reprinted an article by Prof. W. M. Tweedie, Professor of English,

University of Mt. Allison, N. B. The article is entitled "Everybody Able to Spell," and expresses the hope that the time will soon come when every body will be able to spell, because spelling will have been made simple.

#### "DAILY DRIFT"

Under this daily head in the *Nebraska State Journal*, Lincoln, Nebraska, March 30, 1912, is an article that begins:

Simplified Spelling marches on in spite of the efforts of the stand-patters . . . At 44 Great Russell Street, W. C. (west center), London, permanent headquarters for the cult have been established, from which simplified spelling pamphlets (spelt "pamflets") are scattered broadcast for the education and enlightenment of the people. It is admitted by these people as by our own that the new and shorter and easier and better methods of spelling will look odd at first in the public prints, but after we have become accustomed to the change it will become as natural and entirely harmonious as eating with a fork. In the newer simplifications we find the word advanced spelled "advanst"; asked "askt," ready "redy," etc., etc. In the seventeenth century choleric was spelled "cholerick." Under the new dispensation we may hope to reduce it to plain "coleric," and save the wear and tear of a letter that adds to the word no significance, whatever. Under the new system, "thru" will be made to answer the full purpose of the present "through," by the dropping of three entirely useless letters. In the word "thorough" we may see at a glance that the "ugh" is absolutely of no advantage. "Thoro" tells it all, and the word so constructed will seem perfectly balanced and perfectly correct when the eye becomes accustomed to it.

#### THE TREND OF THE COAST

Mr. G. A. Ziel, of San Francisco, is doing effective work for simplification, first by bringing it to the attention of prominent professional and business men, and secondly, by publishing in various places news of what has been done and is doing on the Pacific coast for the movement. For example, from the annual catalog (January, 1912), of Reed College, Portland, Ore., he made an alphabetic list of the simplified forms contained in that catalog, and sent copies to many teachers and others. He says: "The fact that a university on this Coast has adopted S. S. seems to have impressed them."

The simplified forms thus found in the catalog of Reed College number two hundred and two—including, of course, only the words that happen to be used in the writing of that catalog.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

There is a notable increase in the number of requests received from libraries for the Circulars of the Board.

Many pupils in the public schools write to the Board for information. This indicates that teachers are active in bringing the subject to the attention of their classes, and that the seed is falling on fertile soil.

The "Chautauqua" assemblies, those summer gatherings for instruction and amusement, and for lectures, will soon be abroad in the land. Sometimes these gatherings descend into the elements, and will even consider English spelling. Who will say a few words at the next, and the nearest, "Chautauqua"?

Every now and then President Homer H. Seerley sends for more hundreds of Circular No. 23—an alphabetic list of modernized spellings—for distribution in the Iowa State Teachers' College.

The Illinois State Teachers' Association, at its last meeting, resolved to use in its publications all the simplifications in spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board; and its 'Journal of Proceedings' has accordingly appeared (May, 1912), in that modernized form.

The "Alphabetic List of Simplifications in Spelling" is circulating in schools and colleges throughout the country. In response to recent requests received, we have sent to Professor D. W. La Rue, East Stroudsburg, Pa., 225 copies for distribution in the East Stroudsburg State Normal School; to Professor L. L. Garber, Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio, 40 copies (and 50 copies of No. 24) for use in that institution; to E. B. Hodges, Superintendent of Schools, Sioux Center, Iowa, 50 copies; to Professor Oliver F. Emerson, Western Reserve University, 100 copies; and to Professor Harry W. Robbins, Calumet High School, Laurium, Michigan, 100 copies.

Mr. Edward Rynearson, Director of High Schools, Pittsburg, Pa., has received 150 copies of each of our principal circulars for use in the high schools of Pittsburg; and we have sent to Professor John Dearness, London, Ontario, many hundred copies of Circulars 24 and 25.

With the January, 1911, number, the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* began to spell *sulfur* with *f* instead of *ph*. "Nothing like patient waiting" is the comment of our corre-

spondent who calls attention to this improvement. But there are other virtues beside patience; for instance, action.

The *Normalite*, published at the State Normal School at Peru, Nebraska, continues the free use of simplified spelling, without any apparent opposition or discontent.

Dr. Burt G. Wilder diversifies his work in zoology, physiology, anthropology, and the like, with poetry and music. Last year he composed the words and music of an ode, "Fiat Justitia," in aid of the movement for international good will and arbitration. He has recently composed the words and music of an "Ode to Life Savers." The ode, and the following note, are printed in simplified spelling:

"NOTE:—Suggested at midnight, January 2, 1912, by the fierce gale and heavy surf at Siasconset, Nantucket Island, and by the reflection that, while others sleep in comfort and safety, the Soldiers of Peace patrol the bleak shores and hold themselves ready for arduous and perilous service."

All the old songs and ballads are also un-Websterly in spelling. The spell of music is not that of Webster.

Our readers will find it well worth their while, for information, for encouragement, and for entertainment, to read the *Pioneer of Simplified Spelling*. The *Pioneer* is sent gratis to all members of the Simplified Spelling Society. Any one may become an associate member for an annual subscription of one shilling; single numbers of the *Pioneer* cost 2d. Address the Simplified Spelling Society, 44 Great Russell street, London, W. C., England.

## STUNG

The *Springfield Leader*, Springfield, Mo., of May 16, in reporting the Missouri State spelling bee at Jefferson City, says that "among the words missed in the public contest in which Miss Myrtle Cook of Cross Timbers, Hickory County, won, were: Villian, demean, impugnh, saccharine, veracity, parsimony, canceliation."

In giving the full list of words in the State contest, this paper includes words which it spells thus: Sacredotal, cairassier, lictorice, eclat, obstable, tailsman, rougery.

It is evident that the editors and composers of the *Springfield Leader* have been stung by the spelling bee.

How many persons, among the superintendents and teachers and governors who conducted these matches, could spell all the two hundred words mentioned without missing any?

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

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## PRESIDENT GRANDGENT

President Grandgent is professor of Romance Languages in Harvard University. He was for many years Secretary, and became this year President, of the Modern Language Association of America. He has long been one of the editors of the publications of the Modern Language Association; and, like nearly all the officers of that Association, has long been a consistent and persistent advocate of the simplification of English spelling. He is not only an erudite filologist in the general sense, but is one of the most eminent foneticians in the United States. It is not without significance that an eminent scholar, a Professor of English filology in Yale University, is succeeded as President of the Simplified Spelling Board by an other eminent scholar in Harvard University. Professor Grandgent, as President of the Board is *ex officio* a member of the Executive Committee.

## ABRUPT SIMPLIFICATION

Dr. Crichton, of Castleton, Ontario, writing to the Montreal *Daily Witness*, approves the willingness of that paper to give thought and space to the discussion of simplified spelling. He says: "It seems to me that the British Empire would meet the competition of Germany better by reforming its spelling than by building men-of-war."

He refers to the fact that he took up the matter in the Ontario school journals and at the Teachers' Association thirty years ago, and mentions with gratification the organization of the Ontario Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society. He adds: "Like yourself and your correspondent 'G. W. A.,' I am in favor of making the reform abruptly instead of spreading it over a long term of years."

Surely. Let the reform be done as soon as it can be done. But it can not be done, promptly or gradually, soon or late, if the persons who favor the idea do not do something to promote it. Writing to the newspapers, speaking before teachers' meetings, using simplified spelling in personal letters, are sometimes called "gradual" methods; but they are abrupt for the man who begins. No man who begins the work of reform abruptly, finds that the work can be finished abruptly. The "gradual" reform that our friends really have in mind when they criticize is that kind of reform that consists mainly of expressions of approval and kindly predictions of a good time coming.

Let the advocates of prompt and abrupt reform join us in doing today and tomorrow what certainly can be done today and tomorrow; and the evening and the morning of the third day will show reform in the actual process of creation. Walking is a gradual process, but every step is abrupt.

## AUSTRALIA "AMERICANIZED"

The following cable dispatch from Melbourne, Australia, dated April 29, 1912, appeared in the newspapers of this country:

Opposition is being shown to the edict of the Director of Education insisting upon a reform in spelling, following the American method, as, for example, such words as *center*, *plow*, *honor*, *favor*. Those who object to the mandate contend that the new order will Americanize the language.

We hear, in various parts of the world, protests against "Americanizing" this, that, and the other thing. We gather that the process is objectionable, and that of all Americanizing, the Americanizing of "the language" is the worst.

Let us, then, find out what it is to Americanize "the language." It is to spell "such words as *center*, *plow*, *honor*, *favor*" in the way thus given. "Such words as *center*?" How many such words are there? About twenty. How many words are there in the same class having formerly *-re* and now *-er*? More than a thousand. How do these twenty words come to be partly excepted from the rule? Partly by chance, partly by the interference of ignorant writers and printers. Why should twenty words be excepted from the rule that prevails in a thousand words?

"Such words as *plow*," as against *plough*? How many such words are there? Count them on your thumbs!

"Such words as *honor*," as against *honour*? How many such words are there? Less than thirty. How many words of the same class now have *-or* exclusively? Several thousand. Why should a few words be kept for ever separated in the class to which they belong?

And is the *spelling* of a few dozen words in a particular way, and that the regular way, a process that affects the whole *language*?

If you can Americanize the English language by spelling a few dozen words according to the real rule and analogy of the English language, could you Germanize the British nation by importing a dozen German bands? And may not the German bands play better?

Could you Gallicize the German nation by introducing French cookery into six German restaurants? And is French cookery bad?

### CIRCULATING THE BULLETIN

Some members at the Sixth Annual Meeting repeated the wish which is often expressed by some of our correspondents, that the BULLETIN should appear more frequently. This is much to be desired, but it will never occur until the approvers of the BULLETIN and of the ideas that it represents, shall support the BULLETIN and those ideas, in greater numbers, or shall otherwise enable the Board to meet the necessary expense. As the BULLETIN is published at only a nominal price, and as there is no revenue from advertising, an increase in the circulation means an increase in pecuniary loss. This loss we are prepared to meet, up to a certain point; but our friends must understand that approval and commendation alone do not increase the number of subscribers or pay for free copies.

One of the surest ways in which to circulate the BULLETIN, or any other publication of the Simplified Spelling Board, is by the channel of personal effort. If those friends of the cause who wish to see, for example, the BULLETIN circulated more widely, will do what some men have done, namely, send \$1.00 for ten subscriptions for ten of their friends, or \$5.00 for fifty subscriptions for fifty of their friends, the BULLETIN will surely be circulated to that extent. And this will also serve as an outward sign of the inward grace of simplification.

Of course, we make every effort to get the attention and support of persons hitherto uninterested or unconverted; and most of the thousands of persons on the list of Signers and most of the subscribers have been won in that way.

Nevertheless, it is possible for any person who chooses to make the effort, and has or will make a favorable environment, to secure hundreds of subscribers and thousands of Signers.

### THE SPORT OF SPELLING

The hum of spelling bees, which we mentioned in our last number as beginning to be heard in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, and other states, led to a great stir in that form of sport. The local and state newspapers have given a great deal of "valuable space" to accounts of these contests, all ending with a statement according to this formula: "Johnny A., aged eleven, won the contest, missing only fifteen words out of a hundred, while Sarah B., aged twelve, missed only eighteen." We read of one contest that continued for eight hours. "Champions"—that is, boys and girls who dodged most of the traps which the designing teachers laid for them—were discovered in every town and county that took part.

In the contest at Jefferson City, Missouri, for the championship, in which contest seventy-three counties were represented, Hugh Sappington of Clarksburg won the first prize (\$100). "The contestants were given 100 words to spell orally and 100 to write." The winner "misspelled" fourteen of the 200 words. We mention a few of the words given out: *Abacus, eleemosynary, appetite, glueyness, appurtenance, deleble, irascible, syzygy, sirloin, separable, roquetry*.

'T is a fine list. Every word is a trap, and yet the boys and girls must know some of those traps, or they will get caught. Guess the conventional way, or you fail. Don't use the spelling that looks right to you. If it looks right, it is probably wrong.

In the accounts printed in the newspapers, there is scarcely any reference to the movement for the regulation of English spelling. Naturally the superintendents and teachers who conduct these contests would not wish to have such a way of escape left open for the contestants. It would spoil the sport. But some of the thousands of boys and girls who "lost" in these contests, and some of their parents, will begin to think of the real reasons why they lost, and begin to doubt the value or the reasonableness of a mode of writing the language that can not be learned by *any* intelligent boy or girl, and that finds its highest utility in providing a form of popular sport.

As a sport it would be even more amusing if the tables were turned and the words were given to the examiners themselves. How do the examiners know whether the contestants spell the words correctly? Ah, they have the spelling book or the dictionary to look at! Deprive them of that help, and what would happen?

### ISAAC K. FUNK

We record with great regret the death, April 4, 1912, of Dr. Isaac K. Funk, the editor of the "Standard Dictionary." As a member of the Executive Committee from the beginning, he took part in all its discussions and debates, and gave much time and thought to the practical details of the work. In the revisions of the "Standard Dictionary" he introduced simpler spellings whenever and wherever it seemed possible. It was due to his inspiration and his action that the publications of the Funk & Wagnalls Company show a general preference for the simpler or more advanced spellings of English. He did not go beyond the point where he could have the cooperation of the general body of reformers, but he went to that point, and thereby helped to establish on a permanent basis many simplifications that had hitherto been left in the state of mere discussion.

Dr. Funk had been ill for some days, but his end was not expected. The Executive Committee has much reason to regret the loss, in so short a time, of two members so active and so useful as Colonel Sprague and Dr. Funk.

### "ANNOUNCEMENTS"

Whenever the Simplified Spelling Board holds a meeting, some newspapers will have a statement of this sort: "The Simplified Spelling Board announces that no new simplifications of spelling were adopted at the meeting," or "It is announced," etc.

The notion seems to be that the Simplified Spelling Board holds its meetings in order to prepare and to "announce," the next day, some new simplifications. One of the newspaper paragraphs about the recent meeting begins thus: "When the Simplified Spelling Board adjourned, after holding a meeting in New York the other day, it announced that not a single new word had suffered mutilation at its hands."

We take the opportunity to announce, in the real meaning of the word, that no "announcements" are made by the Simplified Spelling

Board, or by its officers, except in its own publications, or under the signatures of its officers. Statements about the Board, or its announcements, or its purposes, that may be made in the ordinary newspaper reports, are often inaccurate and may be entirely false.

Any one who wishes to know what the Simplified Spelling Board proposes or recommends, or has announced, may get accurate information by reading the BULLETIN, or by writing to the office of the Board for copies (sent free) of its circulars.

### PHILADELPHIA AND FRANKLIN

From Philadelphia comes a report, by a distinguished professor in the University of Pennsylvania, that simplified spellings of the kind recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board are now constantly appearing in theses and other papers prepared by the students—spellings not inspired, as heretofore among students, by untutored nature, but by tutored art and instructed reason.

This is indeed quite appropriate. The University of Pennsylvania was virtually founded by Benjamin Franklin; and Benjamin Franklin was the first conspicuous American advocate of an improved spelling of English. If the University of Pennsylvania has caught up with Franklin, anything may happen. The United States may even "catch up with China"—a hope expressed on one of the banners borne in the woman suffrage procession in New York, on May 4.

But the United States have already caught up with China in respect to the notation of their language. In this matter the two great nations are now walking abreast, through the dark ages.

### A CRY FOR MORE

We receive many calls for more Circulars. Our friends read all that we publish and ask for more. Some want a new Circular every month. But we can not publish a new Circular every month. When we do publish a Circular, it must go to all our Signers, and to many thousand other persons, and to many institutions and periodicals. Moreover, a perpetual supply of every Circular must be kept on hand for the endless procession of inquirers. The Circulars are sent free, but they cost money.

We wish that the Circulars could be issued more frequently, and circulated more widely. If any one will provide the means therefor, the Circulars will be produced accordingly.

### FRENDLY ADVICE

We wish we could print in full the remarks, comments, and pieces of advice which we receive from the members of the Board and the Advisory Council. If they could be printed and circulated, it would prove beyond any question that the real scholars, and practical educators of the country, are not only in favor of the regulation of English spelling, but wish to see the work done promptly.

But some of the single pieces of advice put the advised in a dilemma. We quote recent passages from two learned members of the Council:

1. "Don't drive too fast!"
2. "I approve, but you're too slow."

One of the gentlemen is the president of a large normal school. The other is an eminent Oriental scholar.

### SYZYGY

One of the words which were "missed" by the champion speller who took the first prize in the Missouri State spelling match, was *capital*. But he brought down *syzygy* at the first shot. The *Carthage Press*, of Carthage, Mo., May 16, in its comments upon the spelling-match, says: "The time is not far distant when boys and girls will be allowed some say-so in regard to what they study in the public schools." While waiting for that good time, the editor of the *Press* thinks that "the best thing for the new champion speller to do is to forget that there is such a word as 'syzygy' and devote more time and attention to 'capital', which will play a mighty important part in his business career after he finishes his school work."

But should a school-boy be allowed to forget that there is such a word as *syzygy*? He need not know what it means, and he need not use it, but he ought to be compelled to spell it now and then. Are not English words made to spell, and to trap school-boys with?

### PROFESSOR CHILD

A new member of the Executive Committee, Dr. Clarence G. Child, Professor of English in the University of Pennsylvania, was elected in succession to the late Colonel Charles E. Sprague, whose lamented death is mentioned elsewhere in this BULLETIN. Professor Child is a graduate of Trinity College. He received his doctor's degree

from Johns Hopkins University, his thesis being concerned with the history of the palatal sounds in Anglo-Saxon and Middle English. He has edited a number of filological and literary works for school and college use, and is exceptionally well qualified as a member of the Executive Committee.

### ARRANGEMENTS

The Paterson (N. J.) *News*, May 3, 1912, says editorially: "There are unquestionably many anomalies in our spelling system. No one questions that a reform might be effected." Then, referring to the "unfortunate" fact that some persons have actually made the attempt—a thing which it justly views as fatal to success—it concludes as follows:

Had the committee that revised the spelling arranged for the cooperation of all the publishers of books, pamphlets, newspapers and other printed matter, and for the assistance of all the Superintendents of Education in the various states, there might have been some prospect of achieving success. But a small group of men decided arbitrarily on certain changes in the spelling, and then trusted to Providence that the whole country would accept the verdict. The reform still may be brought about, but it will be only gradually.

How easy it all is when we are told how to do it! Just "arrange for the cooperation of all the publishers of books, pamphlets, newspapers, and other printed matter, and for the assistance of all the Superintendents of Education in various states," and there will be "some prospect of achieving success." This had never occurred to us. We have repeatedly invited all the leading publishers in the United States, and "all the Superintendents of Education in the various states" to cooperate with us; but we did not "arrange" for the cooperation. Here is a hint for all minorities. Just "arrange" with the majority to cooperate with you, and your victory is won.

### FOREN SUBSTANCES

One of our correspondents, who had subscribed for the BULLETIN in behalf of several friends, writes (May 27) thus:

"One man to whom I had the BULLETIN sent was suffering from prejuditis and fossilization of the spelling bump. After taking three bottles of your cure he shows marked symptoms of improvement, the foren substances *o*, *g* and *h* in his *through* having been painlessly removed."

## CHARLES EZRA SPRAGUE

Colonel Charles E. Sprague, one of the founders of the Simplified Spelling Board, and from the beginning a member of the Executive Committee and the Treasurer of the Board, died at his residence in New York, 170 West 73d Street, March 21, 1912. In the death of this accomplished man the Board and the Executive Committee have suffered a loss that can not be repaid.

The following minute, presented by a special committee appointed for the purpose, was adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 3, 1912:

The members of the Simplified Spelling Board, assembled at their Annual Meeting, April 3, 1912, record with profound regret the recent death of their highly esteemed colleague, Charles Ezra Sprague.

Uniting with his profession as a banker, public servant in many philanthropic causes, and having, as a life-long student, a wide range of intellectual interests and activities, he was a shining example of the rare combination of genuine scholarship with the highest degree of business efficiency. All his abilities were always at the service of the Board. As its Treasurer from the beginning of its work, he gave the Board the benefit of his practical sense, while he was a no less useful contributor toward the solution of its scientific problems.

The Board desires to express to the family of Colonel Sprague its deep sympathy with them in their loss. They may well be proud of the memory of one so distinguished in character and ability.

## THE ADVANCE OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

Professor John Dearnness, Vice-principal of the London (Ontario) Normal School, at a recent session of the Ontario Educational Association, made an address on "The Advance of Simplified Spelling." He reviewed the progress of the year, mentioning the action of the Educational Conference in London, and the resolutions adopted by that Conference. He referred also to the action of the educational authorities of the Union of South Africa in approving and making provision for a transition from the old spelling of Dutch (itself reformed a century ago) to the simplified form, the two systems to be permissible for a period of five years. He mentioned the joint conference in England of the Simplified Spelling Society and the Simplified Spelling Board, and discussed the scheme put forth by the British Society.

The Ontario Educational Association is kept fully informed of the progress of the movement,

and many of its members are exerting themselves to spread the idea and practice in that province.

## DE GUSTIBUS

The Columbia University Press uses all the simpler spellings given in the more advanced dictionaries; but this reasonable action does not meet the approval of a former officer of the university. In a recent number of *The Columbia Alumni News* he derided the "Simple Simon spelling" of the Columbia University Press, and the editor of the *Alumni News* added a few derogatory remarks on his own account. Professor Brander Matthews thereupon wrote a letter to the *Alumni News*, expressing his surprise at the stand taken by the editor, having "supposed that the *Alumni News* was founded for other purposes than the expression of the individual opinion of a single alumnus on the vexed question of English spelling." Professor Matthews said further:

And you in your turn may be surprised to be told that your perfervid attack on simplified spelling is welcome to all advocates of a progressive amelioration of the orthography of our noble tongue. We always feel encouraged whenever we hear a vehement opponent shouting that "the whole matter is a question of good taste—not even remotely of scholarship." This is our case, put in a nutshell. We have each of us a right to spell according to our several ideas as to the requirements of good taste—that is to say, according to our several opinions and our several prejudices. And we are each of us entitled to believe that orthodoxy is our own doxy and heterodoxy is the other man's doxy.

In this divergence as to what constitutes good taste, a question never open to argument, the opposing parties can find consolation in the companionship of those who happen to share the same set of prejudices. You, apparently, are proud to have on your side an anonymous ex-professor of Columbia, who holds that to spell *theater* (which is frequent in the first folio of Shakespeare) is "something like walking down Fifth Avenue at 4 in the afternoon in a dress suit and a red tie." We, on the other hand, recall with satisfaction the fact that Tennyson and Mark Twain, Thomas Wentworth Higginson and Richard Watson Gilder were all ardent advocates of the simplification of English spelling, and that their opinions are now shared by James Bryce, Prof. Gilbert Murray, Sir Frederick Pollock, W. D. Howells, John Burroughs, Andrew D. White, and Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler.

One familiar Latin phrase tells us that there is no disputing about tastes, and another equally well-known quotation from the same language reminds us that a man is known by the company he keeps.

## THE CHAIN ON THE "OPEN DOOR"

H. J. Hunter, M.D., a medical missionary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in the course of an article on "The Future of the Foreign Immigrant," contributed two years ago to the *Home Mission Pioneer*, published at Toronto, wrote as follows, with particular reference to the Ruthenians and Galicians, who have come in great numbers into the western districts of Canada:

The great difficulty with all the foreigners is the difference of language, and it is hard for us to understand how cruel a barrier it is. The growth of the colonies is easy of explanation. The poor homesick immigrant in a strange new country, surrounded by the meaningless babble of a foreign tongue, hastens to the little settlement of his "ain folk" as naturally as a child to its mother's knee. The greatest hindrance to the acquirement of English by foreigners is our awful method of spelling. There are thousands of the older immigrants in this country who would already have a good knowledge of English if they had not been prevented by this unfortunate obstacle. The Russians, the Ruthenians, the Poles, the Germans, the Scandinavians, have all taken up and completed spelling reform in their several languages many years ago. Their children practically do not need to learn to spell. All that they require is to learn the alphabet and get a little practice in its use; then they can spell anything. With us it is necessary to learn the spelling of each individual word. I have met case after case of intelligent immigrants who started to study English but gave it up in despair simply on account of the spelling.

## DELITE IN MANCHESTER

Manchester, in England, is not commonly regarded as the home of delite. It is rather thought of by Americans as the home of factories and mills and other useful things. But we are able to quote from the *Manchester Guardian* the following appreciation of *delite*:

Mr. Robert Bridges is one of our best poets, and he is also a leader in the simplified spelling movement. It is, therefore, not surprising to find in his poem "Amiel," in the March *English Review*, the unusual spelling of the last word in the line, "If thou in priesthoods and altar glory delitest." In this case, obviously, the spelling is preferred not merely because it is closer to the sound of the word, but because it is the true spelling. The common form "delight" is mistaken, and is based on a false analogy. "Delite" is the early and true form; it is derived from the old French verb *delitier*. The Italian verb is *dilettare*, the Latin *delectare*. "Delight," the authorities say, crept into the language in the fifteenth century, from a desire to accommodate the spelling to that of such

words as *light* and *flight*. The true spelling is found now and then as late as the Bible of 1611—e.g., "Scatter Thou the people that delite in war."

See a "delite"-ful article in the *BULLETIN* for March, 1910, p. 13.

## THE PIONEER

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain has begun the publication of a monthly periodical, entitled *The Pioneer of Simplified Spelling*. It is printed entirely in the advanced spelling adopted by the Society for the work of its propaganda. Three numbers have been published, for March, April, and May. An "Editorial Noet," page 32, gives the following information:

"The Pioneer" is published every month, except for two months in the summer. The Editor's address is 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

"The Pioneer" is sent gratis to all Members of the Simplified Spelling Society. The annual subscription for Associated Members is a minimum of one shilling, that for Full Members a minimum of five shillings. More money means more power to carry on the campaign.

Members are urged to apply for leaflets setting forth the aims of the Society. These and all other information will be gladly sent by the Secretary of the Simplified Spelling Society, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W. C.

The contents of the April number are headed: "An Appeal for Local Branches," p. 18; "Object Lesson" (somewhat similar to the lesson leaflets of the Simplified Spelling Board), p. 19; "Noets and Nyuez," page 20; "Sur William Ramsay and Simplified Spelling," page 23; "Spelling Problems," page 23; "Mr. Punch's Creditable Attempt," page 25; "From All Parts," page 26; "Cwiet Wure," a sonnet by Matthew Arnold, in spelling that would surprise Mr. Arnold, page 27; "Jentl Aansers," page 28; "Esai Competishon," page 29; "Prais and Prejudis: Pres Noetisez of the Society's Wure" (mentioning a great many editorials, letters, and other utterances in the British press), page 30. On the second page of the cover is an "Alfabetic List of Simplified Spellings," and on the third page of the cover is a list of the "Recent Publications of the Simplified Spelling Society." The May number is no less varied and interesting.

The *Pioneer* is edited by Professor Walter Rippmann, a scholar in whom learning, energy, and courage are happily combined. We wish him and his colleagues all success in their warfare against the common enemy, the demon of orthographic superstition.

## FRANCIS ANDREW MARCH

The following minute, presented by a special committee consisting of Professor Clarence G. Child of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Charles H. Grandgent of Harvard University, and Dr. Benjamin E. Smith of New York, was adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 3, 1912:

The members of the Simplified Spelling Board, assembled at their Annual Meeting, April 3, 1912, place upon record their tribute to the memory of Francis Andrew March, whose death took place on September 9, 1911, in his 86th year.

A pioneer in the establishment of English studies in this country, a scholar of world-wide eminence in the fields both of English and of comparative filology, a great teacher, and an unfailing source of aid and inspiration to numberless students who sought his advice and help, he is here especially commemorated as one of the first scholars to bring the cause of reform in English spelling to practical recognition in the counsels of his fellow-scholars, and as a member of this Board, which in great part owes its being and its influence to his unwearied efforts, continued for many years in the face of indifference and opposition.

The Board asks permission to extend to the family of Professor March its sincere sympathy, and records its own sense of loss thru his death, a loss irreparable save for the virtue that lives on in his noble memory and example.

## A MAN OF SCIENCE

Sir William Ramsay, as a man of science, has discovered in the air about us a number of unseen, unfelt and unsuspected gases, and he has done much to make radium a part of elementary education. But he has not allowed his insight into the invisible to blind him to the obvious and visible obstruction in English spelling. He is a prominent member of the Simplified Spelling Society, and is one of its vice-presidents. In the April number of its spritely organ, *The Pioneer*, is published a letter by Sir William Ramsay in the spelling of the Society. The letter is as follows:

The Editor ov "The Pioneer."

Deer Sur,

"The Pioneer" wil probably reech aul hu ar interested in speling reform. Having been an advocait ov sum sistem ov consistent speling for the laast thurty yearz, I ventyur tu sujest that the oonly cors tu adopt iz that aul hu beleev in reform shoold adopt the recomendaishonz ov the

Comity, eeven tho thai mai not apeer the best posibl; and that, in ordinary correspondens, in rieting for the pres, and in fact on aul ocaizhonz, thai shoold practis whot thai preech. If peepl wer tu fiend that the sistem woz being yuezd, and not being treeted as a dezierabl but impracticabl mezher, progres wood be maid. Wood it not be wel tu publish munthly a list ov the naimz ov thoez hu wil promis to yuez oonly simplified speling?

Yuerz faithfully,

WILLIAM RAMSAY.

It will be seen that this eminent scientist repeats the advice that all who believe in reform should in ordinary correspondence, in writing for the press, and in fact in all occasions, practis what they preach.

What are we going to do? Are our eminent and orthodox leaders in science and in literature going to practis what they preach, and are they going to ask other persons to practis what they preach? It is well understood among the eminent and orthodox in society and in politics that preaching is all that the public can expect.

## STARTED IN 1880

The first movement in spelling reform in Nova Scotia was started in 1880 by Dr. David Allison, Ex-President of Mount Allison University, who was then Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia, by inviting the Principal of the Pictou *Academy* to write a paper on the subject for the Provincial Educational Association which met in Truro. Dr. Allison also supplied the essayist with literature on the subject.

The first paper to advocate the subject was the *Dalhousie College Gazette* under the editorship of Vintor Frazee, B.A., who had the advantage of being a Pitman phonographic writer and who had the honor of graduating with a phonetic spelling which then had no such authority back of it as is now wielded by the Simplified Spelling Board and the Simplified Spelling Society.

— 1912 *Journal of Education*, Nova Scotia, p. 164.

## DINNER TO PROFESSOR MURRAY

Professor Gilbert Murray, the President of the Simplified Spelling Society, who has been lecturing in Boston and New York and at Amherst College, on Greek poetry and the Greek drama, during April, was entertained at dinner by the Executiv Committee of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 22, 1912, at the University Club in New York.

Professor Murray gave a good account of the Simplified Spelling Society and its campaign for an emancipated spelling. He expressed the hope that as a result of its efforts there would be a further convergence of opinion and practice. He looks forward to a time, in the near future, when there will be national and international conferences looking to the adoption of a large plan on which all educated men can unite. In the mean time he welcomes all agitation and all schemes that tend to that result.

### THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON

The following minute, presented by a special committee, was adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board, April 3, 1912:

The members of the Simplified Spelling Board, assembled at their Annual Meeting, April 3, 1912, hereby make record of the great loss which the Board has sustained thru the death, May 9, 1911, in his 87th year, of Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

A minister, soldier, and author, an unswerving foe of injustice and oppression, a champion of unpopular reforms, ever confident in the ultimate triumph of the right, one of the last survivors of a period famous in our literature and political history, the possessor of a host of friends thru his rare personal charm and his gifts as essayist, novelist, and historian, his name lent distinction to the membership of the Board, and his advocacy strength to the movement it represents.

The Board in expressing its sympathy with the family of Colonel Higginson in their loss, shares with them a just pride in his exalted character and achievements.

### ADVERTISING'S ARTLESS AID

A Grand Rapids, Mich., tire company, in advertising its tires, asks us to notice "that Innershu."

The Northwestern Chemical Company of Marietta, Ohio, advertizes that it supplies "Se-ment-ol" which is intended to cure leaks. "Never," the company entreats, "be without it in your car." As every one of our readers has a car, every one will thank us for mentioning this invaluable remedy, which we guarantee to produce all the effects that may result from its use.

The New Tyr Manufacturing Company of New York, tired of the "useless e", asks us to "Try a pint can of New Tyr"—a rubberized liquid preparation that fills the cracks and holes in "your tyrs".

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

We have received a copy of a leaflet entitled "Spelling in a Nutshell: A selected list of 1200 common words sometimes misspelled, compiled by Theo. B. Noss, California, Pennsylvania." Among the common words thus picked out for special study are: Alien, arid, arctic, canker, canal, dorsal, Indian, itself, orbit, secret, torrid, valid, zinc. Hard words! But worse remain behind. A list of 12,000 common words sometimes misspelled may be found in any school dictionary.

Among the newspapers which have recently contained intelligent and reasonable articles on the subject of simplified spelling are the *Nebraska State Journal* (Lincoln), the *St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette*, the *Victoria (B. C.) Colonist*, the *Christian Work and Evangelist*, the *Madison (Wis.) Journal*, the *Montreal Witness*, and the *Truro (N. S.) Daily News*.

In Great Britain, a great many newspapers have noticed with intelligence and courtesy the movement conducted there by the Simplified Spelling Society.

Professor George H. Danton has recently published articles marked by an advanced degree of Simplified Spelling. One is a paper on Tieck's criticisms of Boydell's illustrations of Shakespeare. He has an other article in *Modern Language Notes* for May, and one in the *Monatshefte* (Milwaukee) for April. He also uses simplified spelling in college exercises and blackboard illustrations. He says: "It is interesting to see how one's pupils by the sheer force of example gradually get to use it."

The *British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*, of April 11, 1912, asks a listening world: "If 99,999 per cent. of the population are satisfied" with the conventional spelling, "what is the use of trying to alter it?" Ninety-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine per cent. does indeed look like an "overwhelming majority"; but we doubt his figures.

*The Lady*, of London, April 4, 1912, in what the *Pioneer* calls a "feels filipic against reform," expresses her emotions as follows: "It is really astonishing that men of intelligence can be found to defend this attempt to destroy the history and meaning of language for the sake of making the process of learning to spell easier for lazy and stupid people." Methinks *The Lady* doth protest too much.

The *London Daily Telegraph* has asked Professor Rippmann to give it a column in simplified spelling—in simplified spelling, not merely on it. But we may trust Professor Rippmann to be both in it and on it. As the request originated with the *Daily Telegraph*, it shows that that enterprising daily regards simplified spelling as a matter of news.

Some of the Australian papers, notably the Melbourne *Argus* and *Age*, are much wrought up about the proposals introduced by the Victoria Director of Education. The hundred eyes of this *Argus* see in the proposals a fell intent to Americanize Australia; and the *Age*, which has apparently not yet caught up with itself, seems to think that the *Argus* has much reason. This shows the kindly disposition of the *Age*.

At the sixth annual meeting, Dr. Melvil Dewey moved, "That the Executive Committee be requested to appoint a staff of especially successful honorary lecturers on simplified spelling, whose traveling expenses, when they lecture at the request of the Board, shall be paid by the Board, as far as its resources justify." The members were reminded that a special "List of Speakers for Simplified Spelling," containing the names of qualified speakers who had consented to let their names be so used, was published June 28, 1909. This list contains many names, but additions would be welcome.

Mr. J. A. Hayman, a dry-goods merchant of Waco, Texas, in expressing his approval of the movement for the simplification of English spelling, says: "In view of the fact that all the civilized nations are getting to regard the English language as a necessary tongue to acquire in addition to their native language, it makes it the more essential for us to simplify the spelling, so that a foreiner may take hold of it with the least effort. I believe that the superfluous amount of letters we use in our spelling is due to our general habits of extravagance. We do not stop to consider the amount of time, space and energy a more simplified spelling would save for us."

The New York *Tribune*, May 11, 1912, wanted to head a certain article with the words in capitals "NEGRO CAUGHT IN QUICKSAND." The column was too narrow by one letter. The compositor accordingly left out what he regarded as an ommissible letter and the heading appeared as "NEGRO CAUGHT IN QUIKSAND." If these

things can be done to serve a slight and temporary convenience, why can not the like be done to serve a great and permanent convenience?

The Simplified Spelling Society has reprinted as a leaflet a translation by Mr. Archer of an article on the "New World-Speech," by Mr. B. W. Nørregaard, which appeared in the Norwegian newspaper *Morgenbladet*, of Christiania, March 17, 1912. The "New World-Speech," in Mr. Nørregaard's view, is English. After citing numerous facts to show the advantage that English has already obtained over other languages, he says: "It seems self-evident that it must in time become the common world-language. There is only one thing that really stands in the way and makes the learning of English unnecessarily difficult. That obstacle is its spelling, which is certainly very bad." After pointing out the iniquities of English spelling, he adds: "It is then only natural that there should have arisen in England and in the United States a strong movement towards a radical reform of English orthography. . . . It is beyond the scope of this article . . . to speculate upon the probable rapidity with which the reform will be carried thru. But come it must; and when it does come, with the consequent lightening of the labor of learning the language, we shall have made a great stride towards the attainment of a common world-speech."

#### OFFICERS OF THE BOARD, 1912-1913

PRESIDENT: Charles H. Grandgent.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Calvin Thomas, Chairman; Clarence G. Child; Henry Holt; Brander Matthews; Charles P. G. Scott; Benjamin E. Smith; William Hayes Ward; and the President, Charles H. Grandgent, *ex officio*.

*This number (Vol. IV, No. 1) of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN is sent to all former subscribers and to many who have not subscribed. If you are not a subscriber, or if you are a former subscriber, and wish to renew your subscription, subscribe NOW. Ten cents, and your name. Address No. 1 Madison avenue, New York.*

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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No. 2

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## A NEW ERA OF DISCOVERY

One of the delites of a modernized English spelling will be the new era of discovery that it will open to the readers of letters and books. They will often find out, for the first time in their lives, how the writers whose books they read, and how their correspondents whose voices they have not heard, pronounce their words. At present readers have to *guess* how the authors pronounce. No doubt they guess correctly, in most cases; but they do not *know*. They do not know even in the simplest cases. Who knows how Tennyson, or Matthew Arnold, or Dickens, or Thackeray, or Longfellow, or Lowell, pronounce *cat* or *dog*, *house* or *garden*, *lark* or *pretty*, *esthetic* or *medieval*? Who knows how George Bernard Shaw, or H. G. Wells, or Mr. Asquith, or Lloyd George, or Mr. Roosevelt, or Mr. Taft, or Champ Clark, or Woodrow Wilson, pronounces these or other words? We have, indeed, some hint that Champ Clark cawls his dog "dawg" in a lawng drawl, but what about his cat, or his larks? And does Mr. Clark know how to tell his pronunciation in print? And could the average reader understand it, anyhow?

No. We must guess. We guess rightly, often, but we do not *know* it. It is not always important, it is often not important at all; but in some cases we wish to know, and we have a right to find out, and a right to put it into print.

In respect to those words in which there is a recognized difference of pronunciation, writers will properly follow their own custom or preference; and when an orderly system comes into use, we shall begin to make discoveries.

A vista is opened in the *Pioneer of Simplified Spelling*, the organ of the British Simplified Spelling Society. In the recent numbers of this periodical, we note the following pronunciations

that differ more or less from the pronunciations of the same words that are customary in the Middle States. We give the provisional spelling of the *Pioneer*, and add in parenthesis, in the same spelling, some of the variations recognized in the Middle States:

aasc (asc, long—the S. S. S. scheme does not provide a notation for the long sound of *a* in *at*); advaantij (advantij); against (agenst, rarely against); bord (boerd); braanch (branch); dieeresis (dieresis, that is, die-ě-re-sis, in fonetic spelling dai-ě-ri-sis); eesthetic (usually speld esthetic and so pronounced; otherwise eezthetic); emploieez; envelop (envel'op, en'veloep, and on'veloep—a dash at the supposed French pronunciation); isyu (ishu, ishyu); jeeniusez (jeenyusez); mor (moer); paas (pas, long, also paas); paragraaf (paragraf); proporschon (propoershon); tordz (toewerdz, toerdz).

We do not say that any one of these pronunciations is better than the other, or that any one is exclusively British or American. We merely point out that now we can hear our distant friends speak in print. We have no wish to change their pronunciation; but we like to know what it is. And perhaps they would be pleased, as well as amused, to hear how *we* talk. But how can we tell them in print, without using a spelling that will tell?

## TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS

In order to facilitate the clerical work of the BULLETIN, hereafter each new subscription will be recorded as beginning with the number current at the time of the receipt of the subscription—that is, with the one last published—unless the subscriber directs otherwise. The sending of the number current at the time of subscription will be the only acknowledgment of the receipt of a single subscription.

## THE S. S. S. SCHEME

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, after two years of preliminary work, put forth a scheme of notation intended to secure at once a large degree of simplified spelling. Recognizing that beyond a certain point nothing further can be done for the simplification of English spelling without the adoption of a systematic notation applicable to all words, the leaders of the Society decided to undertake such a notation.

At the outset the framers of the scheme laid down certain "guiding principles," which they stated as follows:

- (i) Not to attempt the introduction of any new character.
- (ii) To introduce no diacritics.
- (iii) To adopt no combination of letters which is not already in use and more or less familiar.
- (iv) To make each symbol (letter or digraph) self-contained, so that its value should not depend on any other letter.
- (v) To economise in the use of letters wherever it seemed possible without ambiguity or inconsistency.
- (vi) To depart as little as possible from the current spelling, appropriating to each sound (so far as possible) the symbol already most commonly used to represent it.
- (vii) To retain none of the arbitrary alternatives which so abound in the current spelling.
- (viii) To make allowance for existing divergences of pronunciation.

In the course of their work the framers found it expedient to relax or modify these initial restrictions (all, in fact, except the first, second and eighth), but the spirit of the "guiding principles" has been successfully observed.

In order that the symbols chosen for the long vowels and the diphthongs should be "more or less familiar," they deemed it necessary to take those symbols from among the recognized digraphs that now profusely, tho unsurely, represent the long vowels and the diphthongs of the English language.

The adoption of the historic or filologic notations for the long vowels and the diphthongs, or the selection of any of the recognized fonetic alphabets, was excluded for the reason that any such notation would contain symbols for the long vowels and diphthongs "not already in use and more or less familiar."

This was the decision of Alexander J. Ellis, the great master of fonetics, when he attempted to gain the attention and cooperation of other men than fonetic scholars in the recording and study of actual English speech. Mr. Ellis had devised

an elaborate fonetic notation, which he cald 'Palæotype.' This he used in all his exact work; but for the use of his assistants and correspondents, and of all reporters of dialect pronunciation, he devised a compromise notation which he cald 'Glossotype,' and later 'Glossic.' This 'Glossotype' notation is explained in his great work, "On Early English Pronunciation, with Especial Reference to Shakspeare and Chaucer" (London, printed for the Philological Society: part 1, 1869, p. 16; part 2, 1869, p. 614). In a revised and extended form, as "English Glossic" and "Universal Glossic," it was again printed in that work two years later (part 3, 1871, p. xiii-xx). We reproduce below the "English Glossic" notation of Mr. Ellis (from part 3, 1871, p. xiii), and next the notation of the Simplified Spelling Society (from its handbook, "Simplified Spelling: an Appeal to Common Sense," published in 1911, but undated, p. 51, and from its official card). The selected symbols are in capitals (in the Society's card they are small letters, printed in red):

### KEY TO ENGLISH GLOSSIC [1871]

*Read the large capital letters always in the senses they have in the following words, which are all in the usual spelling except the three underlined, meant for foot, then, rouge.*

bEEt bAIt bAA cAUl cOAl cOOl  
knIt nEt gnAt nOt nUt fuOt

hEIght fOIll fOUl fEUd  
Yea Way WHeY Hay

Pea Bee Toe Doe CHest Jest Keep Gape  
Fie Vie THin DHen Seal Zeal ruSH rouZHe  
eaR R'ing eaRR'ing Lay May Nay siNG

### THE SIMPLIFIED SPELLING IN BRIEF [1911]

Bet	Pet	Dip	Tip	Got	Cot
Met	Net	riNG	N.B.	liNGer	ThiNc
Win	WHim	Van	Fan	THis	THing
So	Zest	viZHon	SHeen	Jest	CHeer
Yes	Hapy	Left	Riet		

glAd	bEst	IIY	sOng	bUd	gOOD	volYUm
fAAtHer	stAR	mAId	fAIR	lAUd	lORd	
{ lEEd	{ lIEt	{ lOEd	{ bUUn	{ dYUEty		
{ sEing	{ dIal	{ gOIing	{ jUel	{ dYUal		
{ wE	{ mI	{ thO	{ thrU	{ dYU		
jOI	mOUnt	cURl	sistER			

*It will be seen that ee, ie, oe, uu, yue, may be reduced before another vowel or finally.*

The alphabets of the two schemes are as follows:

GLOSSIC	a	aa	ai	au	e	ee	ei	eu
S. S. S.	a	aa	ai	au	e	ee	ie	yue
		a(r)	ai(r)	o(r)	e(r)	e	i	yu

GLOSSIC	i	o	oa	oi	oo	ou	u	uo
S. S. S.	i	o	oe	oi	uu	ou	u	oo
	y		o		(y)ue		u(r)	

GLOSSIC	b	ch	d	dh	f	g	h	j	k	l	m	n	ng
S. S. S.	b	c	ch	d	th	f	g	h	j	l	m	n	ng
													n

GLOSSIC	p	r	r'	s	sh	th	v	w	wh	y	z	zh
S. S. S.	p	r	r	s	sh	th	v	w	wh	y	z	zh

We reprint from Mr. Ellis's work (part 3, p. xiv) a specimen of his English 'Glossic', and then print the same according to the S. S. S. scheme:

#### ELLIS

Ingglisch Glosik iz veri eezi too reed. With proper training, a cheild ov foar yearz oald kan bee redili taut too giv dhi egzakt sound ov eni glosik werd prizen'ted too him. Aafter hee haz akweird familiari'ti widh glosik reeding hee kan lern nomik reeding aulmoast widhout instruk'shen.

#### S. S. S.

Inglish Glosic iz very eezzy tu reed. With proper training, a chield ov foer yearz oeld can be redily taut tu giv the egzakt sound ov eny glosic word prezented tu him. Aafter he haz acwierd familiarity with glosic reeding he can lurn nomic reeding aulmoest without instrucshon.

It will be seen that the two schemes and the two specimens are much alike. The likeness arises from the adoption of the same principle, namely, to form a notation for the long vowels and the diphthongs that shall consist of conventional digraphs, chosen because they are conventional, but each one to be used uniformly.

The S. S. S. scheme differs from 'Glossic' in a few cases, either by substituting a filologic notation (*uu*, *u*, *yu*), by substituting a different conventional notation (*oe*, *oo*), or by retaining a conventional notation unchanged (*th* for *dh*, *nc* for *ngk*). No one will deny that the S. S. S. specimen 'looks better' and is more redily intelligible. This is due to the retention of the normal English *c* as against the substituted *k*, the retention of *th* in *the*, etc., and the retention of the present spelling of the unstressed vowels.

Mr. Ellis's 'Glossic' was much used for the purpose for which it was specially intended, namely, in the notation of dialect pronunciation in dialect glossaries. It appears in many of the glossaries published by the English Dialect Society, which was founded soon after the publication of 'Glossic'. But when these and other glossaries came to be collected and merged in the great 'English Dialect Dictionary', the editor, Prof.

Joseph Wright, with the approval of the Society, adopted for the fonetic notation the filologic system then and since used by most filologists, and already adopted, in a more elaborate form, in the Oxford English Dictionary.

But the purpose of the Simplified Spelling Society is different, and its plan must be judged on different grounds—not as a new scientific notation, but as an adjustment of the existing notation, for the purpose of promoting orthographic knowledge and discussion among the people *now*.

Of the combinations of vowel letters used by the Simplified Spelling Society some are true 'digraphs'—that is, they are combinations of letters used in some conventional modern values (without regard to either the conventional or the historical values of the separate letters), to represent certain vowels. Such are *ee* in *beet*, *au* in *caul*, *ou* in *out*.

Some combinations are not taken from popular use, and are therefore not familiar to the ordinary reader. Such are *aa* as in *caam* (calm) and *uu* as in *buun* (boon). These are in fact fonetic notations, taken from historic and scientific use. But tho not familiar to the ordinary reader, they are not likely to be misunderstood. Any one who sees the spelling *caam* or *blaast* or *buun* or *pruuv*, is likely to guess correctly the pronunciation intended. These fonetic forms are even more redily intelligible than forms like *riet* for *right* or *poot* for *put* or *pool* for *pull*, which are nominally 'conventional' and are chosen for that reason.

The combinations *ie*, *oe*, and *ue*, as used in the S. S. S. scheme, are not really digraphs in the accepted sense. They are taken from a few dozen familiar words like *die*, *toe*, *rue*, where the pronounst vowel is really *i*, *o*, *u*, and where *e* is a separate silent vowel, a dead final syllable. Even in the inflected forms, like *dies* or *died*, *toes* or *toed*, *rues* or *rued*, *e* is a separate silent vowel, and is not a part of a digraf. It is just like *e* in *dyled*, *crowed*, *cooed*.

Hence, when these combinations *ie*, *oe*, *ue*, appear in the middle of a word, they do not at once suggest the intended sound. Thus, *liet* suggests, for the moment, a disyllable like *diet*; *roet* suggests a disyllable like *poet*. Moreover, the true digraf *ie* is that which appears in words like *belief*, *grief*, *grieve*, *relieve*, *priest*, *mien*, etc. We may suppose that the Society would have adopted the digraf *ie* with the normal sound as in *belief*, if there were not at hand the more familiar digraf *ee* for the same sound.

It seemd necessary to adopt the notation *ai* as in *bait*, *rain*, *vain*, *wait*, etc., in sted of the theoretically more correct notation *ei*, as in *eight*, *rein*, *reign*, *veil*, *vein*, *weight*, etc. This use of the digraf *ai* prevented its use in its normal tho now exceptional power as in *aisle*, *kaiser*.

Such perplexities beset every effort to regulate by compromise. The spellings *liet*, *mait*, for *light*, *mate*, are in themselves no worse than other spellings with conventional digrafs.

The Simplified Spelling Board has not approved the S. S. S. scheme, but it has avoided whatever snares there are in that scheme only by refraining thus far from proposing any notation for the long vowels, or any notation for any sound, except as such notations are implied in the simplified spellings it has recommended (*dropt*, *crost*, *telegraf*, *hed*, *surfit*, *notis*, etc.). It is certain that any compromise scheme which any board might propose would not be free from the faults of such a compromise. Whether the S. S. S. scheme can be amended toward a more scientific form (say *ai* in sted of *ie* or *i*, *ei* in sted of *ai*, *u* in sted of *oo*, with some other symbol for the *u* in *but*) remains to be seen.

There is no dout as to the notation of the most of the consonants and of the short vowels. The rest can not be postponed for ever. Shall we all debate and none adventure? There must be some action now. This is the spirit of our British frends. Their plan does undoubtedly serv the purpose for which it is intended, and obviates the necessity of changing now, in a reluctant state of public opinion, the spelling of many hundred words. Admitting that the scheme must be a compromise as to the long vowels, this use of these digrafs must be admitted to be reasonable. If, on trial, other digrafs appear to be preferable, they will no dout be preferd.

The Simplified Spelling Board desires to see the British scheme put to the test of extensiv experiment, in order that its merits may be thoroly tried. We commend the plan, and the work of its promoters, to the careful and respectful study of our readers, and express the hope that in the not distant future an international conference will be able to evolv, from this and other plans favord by scholars, a rational notation that shall be adequate for all practical purposes, and that shall also be acceptable to most of the scholars now interested in the problem.

## SIR HARRY JOHNSTON'S VIEWS

Sir Harry Johnston, the well-known African explorer, made in the *Westminster Gazette*, June 25, 1912, a vigorous attack upon the scheme of notation proposed by the Simplified Spelling Society. Without naming the society or its leaders, he said: "They advocate a system of spelling as arbitrary as the one we are invited to abandon; and recommend a phonology which would be only applicable to English, not one which would—which does—equally well serve for the spelling of any other languages, past and present. That would be the ideal orthography to adopt—one of world-wide application, a complete alphabet, and a fixed value for each symbol in the alphabet." He argued in favor of the filological alfabet: "It might be said that a combination between the Lepsius system and that employed by the India Office and the Indian Government (and Royal Asiatic Society, Royal Geographical Society, etc.), would be the ideal alphabet for the transcription of English and of every known form of human speech. Such an alphabet ought by some international conference to be drawn up and imposed on the world at large, taking the place of all others."

This is the alfabet which, so far as English is concernd, was recommended by the American Philological Society in 1877, and used, with different degrees of fulness, in the Oxford English Dictionary, the English Dialect Dictionary, and the Standard Dictionary, and was again recommended by the Philological Association and the Modern Language Association in 1904-1906.

Sir Harry Johnston in a later letter, July 2, says: "I am preparing for publication a little treatise on the phonetic rendering of English and other tongues, which may be of service to the many persons now engaged on the transcription of African and Asiatic languages, and to the few who would like to see the sounds of standard English and dialectal English accurately and precisely rendered by a logical alphabet."

We printed in the BULLETIN for March, 1911 (p. 36), extracts from Sir Harry Johnston's review in the *Outlook* of Mr. Roosevelt's book of African sport, entitled "African Game Trails," 1910. In this review Sir Harry criticized Mr. Roosevelt's "backsliding" from his supposed orthografic views of 1906—as if a term of four years might not make a difference in the views of a public man—and deplored his neglect of the principles laid down by the scientific societies

and generally followed by scientific explorers, for the spelling of "African, Asiatic and Amerindian words and names." This neglect, he said "saddens those who thought that Mr. Roosevelt was, before all things, on the side of rational accuracy."

Mr. Roosevelt, however, did not formally reject science and reason. He merely followed a higher law, namely, the authority of his publishers; obeying the injunction: "Authors, obey your publishers in the Lord; lest they turn again and rend you."

### SIGNS OF PROGRESS

Mr. R. H. Williams, principal of the public schools of Beacon, Iowa, has lately sent us 31 promise cards, signed chiefly by students in the Beacon Public Schools.

Dr. Clarence L. Meader, professor of Latin and Sanskrit in the University of Michigan, has been for some time past sending in signatures of students in that University.

Mr. B. W. Barnes, superintendent of schools, Hillsboro, Ore., has sent us 62 cards signed by teachers and pupils in the public schools.

Dr. George C. O. Haas, of Columbia University, and Mr. Nathan J. Kaplan, of the Thomas Davidson School, New York City, have each helped materially to swell the volume of signed cards.

Mr. Herman R. Goldberg, a high school student of Philadelphia, has in like manner rescued some of his fellows from the oppression of ancient orthography.

On June 12, 1912, we received from President Charles McKenny, of the State Normal School at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 39 promise cards signed by students and teachers attending that institution.

In one mail recently came cards approving the use of simplified spelling in English from a professor in Marbach, Germany; from a professor in Athens, Greece; and from a teacher in Arkansas. From Athens to Arkansas would have formerly seemed a long distance, especially to an ancient Greek. But now Athens joins Arkansas in an intellectual movement.

Dr. David Felmley, President of the Illinois State Normal University, and Dr. Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Teachers College, have sent in hundreds of signatures of teachers and students in those institutions, and of teachers at various meetings which they have addressed. When teachers, and intending teach-

ers, thus declare their opinion, and promise to put their opinion into practice, so far as they can, they are opening the gates of general emancipation.

Other educators who have been active in adding to the roll of Signers are:

Professor W. W. Deatrick, professor of rhetoric and English literature in the Keystone State Normal School, Kutztown, Penn.; Mr. J. F. Boyce, Inspector of Schools, Red Deer, Alberta; Professor Patterson Wardlaw of the University of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.; Professor F. M. Goodman, dean of the College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois, Chicago, Ill.; Professor A. J. Ladd of the University of North Dakota; Mr. J. C. Edwards, principal of Lincoln School, St. Louis, Mo.; Professor J. I. D. Hinds, professor of chemistry, Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn.; and Professor D. W. La Rue, professor of psychology and pedagogy in the State Normal School, East Stroudsburg, Penn.

### ILLINOIS TEACHERS

The Illinois State Teachers' Association at its last annual meeting adopted this resolution:

That this Association hereby adopts the rules and recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board in its Circular No. 23 as the norm of spelling in the official publications and correspondence of this Association, and makes it a part of the duty of its committee on Simplified Spelling to use its best endeavor to have this order complied with by the State Printer.

The "Journal of Proceedings" contains the following note by Miss Caroline Grote, the Secretary:

An honest effort has been made to carry out the instructions of the Association to use the spellings authorized by the Simplified Spelling Board in its circular, No. 23. It is hoped that the mistakes and oversights have been few, but the task has been an enormous one for an amateur in the art. The reader's kindly indulgence is asked and anticipated.

The simplifications adopted have been applied with substantial uniformity. The few oversights are not of importance. To strive after mechanical consistency, now, in the application of a list of simplified spellings is a waste of time. What is needed is to restore a sense of rational liberty in English spelling; and in this period of growing liberty any simplified or advanced spellings that conform to recognized standards of custom or scholarship are not only allowable but desirable.

## A PRACTISING SCIENTIST

Sir William Ramsay, whose letter on simplified spelling and in simplified spelling we quoted in the June number of the BULLETIN, has had a conversation with a reporter of the London *Daily Chronicle*, in which he express the following opinion :

"English is bound to be the universal language if its spelling is simplified. If it is not simplified, other nations will do their best to oust us with Esperanto and other artificial languages. Every foreigner says that English would be the easiest language to learn if it were not for the spelling. At present he has to learn two languages ; the spoken and the spelt one.

"It is objected that with the new system people would not all spell the same way. But does it really matter so long as what is written is understandable?"

Sir William said that those people who had faith in the new system could help it along by using it in their correspondence. "I use it myself," he added, "though not regularly. I make mistakes, it is true. Sometimes also I get surprising letters from people to whom I have written in the new way, saying that they refuse to read it. But still I persevere."

## HENRY SWEET

We regret to record the death, in May, 1912, of Henry Sweet, the eminent Anglo-Saxon scholar, and the chief exponent of fonetics in Great Britain. At the time of his death, Dr. Sweet was the university reader of fonetics in Oxford University. It was under his leading that the Philological Society, in 1881, gave approval to the proposal for the regulation of English spelling, and in 1883 agreed with the American Philological Association upon the recommendation of a long list of simplified spellings—a list in great part identical, because prepared upon the same principles, with the Alfabetic List of Simplifications recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board.

In his later years Dr. Sweet lost some of his interest in the movement for the regulation of English spelling, because he had come to the conclusion, in effect, that the British public would never be intelligent enough to accept or to use a rational system of spelling—at least, not until the whole system of education should be reformed, root and branch. In this view there have been, and there are, others who agree with him. There are few reformers who do not have a vision, at times, of the grim walls of the castle of Giant Despair.

But Dr. Sweet did not change his mind about the principles of fonetics or about the desirability of a rational spelling. His works remain, to testify his solid and industrious scholarship, his close observation, and his filological ability. And his name is great among all students of Anglo-Saxon.

## SIMPLIFICATION IN AUSTRALIA

The recent action of the Director of Education of Victoria, Australia, in promotion of the movement for the simplification of English spelling is thus officially announced in the *Victoria Education Gazette and Teachers' Aid*, published under the authority of the Honorable the Minister of Public Instruction, March 22, 1912, page 85 :

At the Imperial Education Conference, held in London last year, the following resolution was carried unanimously :—

That this conference is of the opinion that the simplification of spelling is a matter of urgent importance in all parts of the Empire, calling for such practical steps in every country as may appear most conducive to the ultimate attainment of the end in view—the creation, in connection with the subject, of an enlightened public opinion, and the direction of it to the maintenance, in its purity and simplicity, among all English-speaking peoples, of the common English tongue.

For some years past, a majority of the inspectorial staff, though not in favor of drastic measures in the direction of spelling reform, has also advocated the taking of some steps towards the adoption of simplified forms of certain words.

The Director has, therefore, decided to take the following action in the direction desired, and has given instructions that, in all printed matter issued by or for the Education Department, the following rules as to spelling are to be observed :—

1. Omit the useless *u* in *honour, favour, &c.*, and all their derivatives, e.g., write *honor, labor, parlor, favor, arbor, harbor, vapor, armor, behavior, endeavor, color, &c.*
2. Put *er* for *re*, in *meter, center*.
3. Use *e* for *æ* in *esthetic, cyclopedia, &c.*
4. Use termination *ize* instead of *ise* in *factorize, legalize, modernize, &c.*
5. Use *gram, program, plow, jail, connexion*.

The British Philological Society and the Oxford English Dictionary recognize the use of the forms given above.

The Director of Education who has taken this step is Mr. Frank Tate, M.A., I.S.O. The Minister of Public Instruction, under whose authority this action was taken, is the Honorable A. A. Billson, M.L.A. The Chief Inspector is William Hamilton, B.A. The Assistant Chief Inspector is Alfred Fussell, M.A. The Committee of Classifiers consists of the Chief Inspector; William Burston, Head Teacher, State School No. 2374, Kensington; William Paul, M.A., LL.M. These may all be addressed at the office of the Director of Education, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

## 'CYMBELINE' AND SIMPLIFICATION

An advocate of simplified spelling had a conversation this summer with an instructor in a certain university. The instructor said that he was against the movement to change English spelling and that he "did n't believe in the arguments." Askt if he had red any of the publications of the Simplified Spelling Board, he said: "No, I would rather read *Cymbeline*."

Here is a definit statement. An instructor in language, when it comes to discussing the question of regulating and improving the written apparatus of language, says he would rather read *Cymbeline*. Well, let him read *Cymbeline*. It is true that *Cymbeline*, regarded as a treatis on English spelling and the means of regulating it, leavs much to be desired; and yet the gifted author, tho he cast his treatis in the apparent form of a play on an irrelevant topic, did succede in presenting a number of arguments for simplified spelling, which even a professor in a university might be justified in notising.

Thus, Shakespeare, in this treatis, referring no dout to the fondly cherisht spellings *favour*, *honour*, *labour*, etc., said, pointedly:

For Idiots in this case of *fauour*, would  
Be wisely *definit*.

1623 SHAKESPEARE, *Cymbeline*, 1: 6: 40  
(1623, facsim. [3]: 374)

And he was impatient of *through*:

When shall I heare all *through*? This  
fierce abridgment [THRU]

Hath to it Circumstantiall branches, which  
Distinction should be rich in.

Id. 5: 5: 384 (facsim. [3]: 398)

Again, referring doutless to some flimsy attack on the idea of rational spelling, he said:

"Twas but a bolt of nothing, shot at nothing,  
Which the Braine makes of Fumes. Our very eyes,  
Are sometimes like our Iudgements, blinde.

Id. 4: 2: 300 (facsim. [3]: 390)

Moreover, Shakespeare did not content himself with abstract arguments and allusions. He used a considerable number of simplified forms. Or, at any rate, the men who profest to print his plays from his own copies, and who certainly did print them from some copies, present in the printed form (1623) a large number of simplified spellings (facsim. [3]: 369-399):

Bin (been), gon, brouz, clozes, pezant, mis-  
tris, stil, curtesie, scarce, etc.; alter'd, curb'd,  
fool'd, foster'd, offer'd, prefer'd, quarter'd,  
seal'd, shun'd, train'd, turn'd, wing'd, cloyd,  
plaid; clipt, lapt, lopt, ript, stopt, stript, blest,  
crost, kist, mist (missed), peckt, vext, etc.  
With thousands of like forms, in all the plays.

So. If you "would rather read *Cymbeline*," this is what you would find in *Cymbeline*. But perhaps the gentleman did not really read *Cymbeline*, but a modern production based on Shakespeare's work, altered in text, and especially in spelling, by some modern publisher of London or Boston. This habit of reading altered forms of pieces of literature that have obtained the fame of being classic, has led many persons to plume themselves upon a knowledge of "English literature," tho they seldom see any piece of English literature that was printed more than fifty years ago. This is like seeing Spain by passing the Rock of Gibraltar, or like exploring the Arctic regions by visiting an ice-house.

Of course we do not criticize any gentleman who would rather read plays or sing songs than peruse the publications of the Simplified Spelling Board. There is a difference; but we would point out that the reading of modern plays and the singing of songs does not in itself entitle one to speak with authority on the question of English spelling and the proposals for its improvement.

## IN MINNESOTA

Mr. Francis E. Titus, of Canton, Minn., brought up the matter of simplified spelling, June 27, at a spelling contest of the district schools of Fillmore County, and later at the graduating exercises of the eighth grade. The county superintendent took part in the discussion. The following promis was circulated and was signd by many of the persons present:

We the undersigned hereby agree to help with the introduction and adoption of simplified spelling according to the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board of New York as far as may be practicable.

After the exercises were over and the graduates were standing in line to receive congratulations from their parents and friends, "one of the girls said she 'wanted to sign that paper,' and all of the graduates present signd it."

The signers live in Canton, Lanesboro, Utica, Preston, Chatfield, Spring Valley, Rushford, and other happy rural seats of various view. Thus a contest in the old spelling was followd by a rush to sign a proclamation in favor of a new spelling. This points to a happy disposition of the desiccated remains of the old spelling, when it takes the form of desiccated remains. Let it—or them—be used as a basis for spelling-bees, exercizes in memorizing, puzzles in pedagogy, a little logomachy before bedtime.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## UNAUTHORIZED

In the newspaper articles adverse to the improvement of English spelling, there is frequent mention of the supposed fact that the movement is led by "an unauthorized group of persons." The writers seem to think this is a damaging charge. So far as we are concerned, we must admit that we are "an unauthorized group." A group of fifty thousand persons is a pretty large group; but if it is unauthorized, it is unauthorized, and this might as well be admitted.

It is true that we have the approval and cooperation of the leading filologists and men of science in the country, of most of the leading educators, and of many thousand teachers, lawyers, clergymen, engineers, and other persons of professional and scientific standing. If they had any authority, they would no doubt give it to us. But they are fatally disqualified by the possession of knowledge, understanding, reason, experience, and common sense.

So we shall have to go on doing what we can, without waiting for the formal authority that perhaps we do not deserve. At any rate we shall have one eminent exemplar, a man who interested himself a good many years ago in the reformation of the language and alphabet of his own nation, namely, Julius Caesar. A British scholar, Professor John W. Hales, the editor of "Longer English Poems, with Notes philological and explanatory," fifth edition, London, 1876, makes in that work (p. 340) the following statement about the Tower of London: "The oldest part of the Tower is said to have been built by Julius Cæsar without any authority." It was a way Caesar had.

Come to think of it, other men have done some things of some importance without being "authorized." The Pilgrim Fathers and the Puritans were not authorized to establish New England. The Continental Congress was not

authorized to assemble. The Declaration of Independence was signed by an unauthorized group of reformers. The destruction of slavery was brought about in Great Britain by an unauthorized and unofficial group. And slavery was brought to its end in the United States by the agitation of an other unauthorized group of men. The fact is, unauthorized men are all the time intruding their ideas and forcing the adoption of their ideas, without the sanction of the only persons authorized in the matter, namely, those who do not wish to have any improvement, and who resist any improvement as long as possible.

## THE REFERENDUM

The following paragraph appeared in the *London Evening News*, June 18, 1912:

The "Nyu Spelling" is already in trouble. Though launched only a few months ago, it has met with so much well-informed criticism that it has already been found necessary to take a first referendum of supporters on one of the leading points of the scheme. Members of the Society are being asked to decide whether words like "ditty" shall be spelt "dity," as at present, or "diti." The latter form has been adopted temporarily in "The Pioneer." If definitely selected, it will render necessary the unlearning by the adepts of several of the recently-adopted rules. The way of the reformer is indeed hard.

This comment shows the difficulty which reformers of spelling encounter. In all possible ways they proclaim that their object is to bring about, by discussion and example, a regulation of English spelling. They urge the educated public to take the subject into consideration. Into this parliament, so to speak, they introduce a bill for the regulation of English spelling. Other reformers introduce other bills and many propose amendments. These bills and amendments are under discussion. The leaders of the movement desire that the matter shall be settled according to the dictates of reason and common sense, after a full discussion and experiment by competent scholars and educators. This is the only attitude that a well-informed educator or man of science can take. This is what the Simplified Spelling Board and the Simplified Spelling Society are proposing and are doing. And yet a part of the very process, namely, the consideration and discussion of successive proposals, is treated by the *Evening News* and other papers as a "trouble" not expected by the hedlong reformers!

In this matter, at least, discerning reformers recognize the necessity of the 'initiative,' the 'referendum,' and—in some cases—the 'recall.'

## THE S. S. S. AND UNSTREST VOWELS

The Simplified Spelling Society confines the changes it proposes, according to its scheme, to the strest vowels.

This the leaders defend on the ground that there is no general conformity in actual speech as to the vowel sounds actually uttered in an unstrest syllable, and no general agreement upon what sound ought to be uttered in the given syllable. The principle is, that the spelling shall be left unchanged, until it is certain what change shall be made. Until it is generally agreed what sound is uttered, or what sound should be uttered, in the unstrest syllable, say, of *legal*, *lunar*, *carat*, *salad*, *linen*, *linnet*, *miner*, *solid*, *satin*, *actor*, *favor*, *common*, *havoc*, *pinion*, *carrot*, etc., the existing letter for the unstrest vowel may be left unchanged. Of course, the necessary changes are made in consonants. In the case of the suffix *-tion*, where the *o* is not, and never was, pronounst as *o* in *on* or in *cot*, the resultant form is *-shon*, which does not 'look' very English or very Latin.

A few changes *are* made, however, in unstrest final syllables; that is, the editors decide how certain words are, or ought to be, pronounst, and use the corresponding notation. Thus, *-age* appears as *-ij*, as in *pasij*, *vilij*, *cartij*, etc.; and *-ble*, *-cle*, *-dle*, appear as *-bl*, *-cl*, *-dl*. If the unstrest syllables contain a digraf, that digraf is reduced to a single letter; thus, *-ain* appears as *-in*, as in *curtin*, *surtin* (certain), etc.; *-eign* as *-in*, as in *forin*; *-our* as *-or*, as in *faivor*, *onor*, etc., *-ous* becomes *-us*, as in *curteus*, *hideus*, *varius*, *vigorus*. The suffix *-ate* becomes *-ait*; that is, the full pronunciation is given, without recognizing the accidental distinction that exists between, say, *intimate*, verb, *intimate*, adjectiv; *separate*, verb, *separate*, adjectiv. These are speld, in both verb and adjectiv, *intimait* and *separait*. And so in *deliberait*, *imeediait*, *incorporait*, etc. These notations reveal 'difficulties,' that is, cases to be decided, that would never be decided, if they were not reveald, and kept reveald. Many good men dodge 'difficulties', while in easy matters they are bold as a lion.

Our readers will see the wisdom of postponing, in a provisional scheme of this kind, any attempt at exact notation of unstrest vowels. The educated public, the reforming public, must be made familiar with a sure and certain notation of the clear and strest vowels, before they enter the twilight paths of vowel 'obscurity'.

They must learn their arithmetic before they procede to their algebra and calculus.

This restraint is particularly justified in a notation that is professedly a temporary device, intended to serv the purposes of education and propaganda, so as to bring the public to a clearer perception of its actual pronunciation, and to an intelligent acceptance or preference of a selected pronunciation.

## CONVICTION BY IRRITATION

Mr. Carnegie's address on the occasion of his inauguration as Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, in June, has been printed. The publisher kindly consented to let him spell as he thought best, and so he has used many simplified spellings; but according to the *Glasgow Evening Times* "he has scarcely gone far enuf to please the true devotee of the cult." It says:

One finds the pages of the brochure sprinkled with such words as "welth," "helth," "deth," "dauter," "fysical," "sferes," "yung," "servis," "paus," "lackt," "hav," "destind," "enuf," "reveald," "thru-out," "mesures," and so on, and the effect on the reader will probably be irritating rather than convincing.

Well, what of it? If a reader can not be convinst by reason and common sense, the next best thing is to irritate him. It may excite a mental reaction, and at length convince him that reason and common sense exist, and are trying to awake him to intellectual life.

The only persons who are justified in being intellectually "irritated" by Mr. Carnegie's advanst spellings, are those who wish to see him and other public men go farther on the same road of "triumfant democracy" in spelling. But he might reply that, under existing circumstances, he is between the devil and the deep sea—that is, between the prejudist public, and the advanst men of science—and that he must use spellings from both sides.

## 'SHE' WAS FALSE

I might also note many false spellings in particular words, as *tongue* for *tung*, *she* for *shee*, *scituate* for *situate*, which is but lately come up, and has no appearance of reason, the *Latine* Word being *situs* without any *c*. *Scent* for *Sent*, signifying a smell or savour which Writing is also but lately introduced and hath no more ground than the former, the Latin Word from whence it comes being *sentio*.

—1691 RAY, Collection of English words, ed. 2, p. 167.

## EDUCATORS EXPOSED

The worm will turn. Teachers, professors, and other learned and literary persons are not to have it all their own way. Some of them have assumed that they settle the question, when they say and prove that all the scholars and leading educators recommend and favor a reformed English spelling. The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* (England) of June 5, 1912, exposes their error. It says:

We frankly confess that our first instinct is always to oppose everything that comes from education experts. A gathering of such people is the finest fad-factory one could imagine. And the fact that school teachers want to abolish our English spelling is the strongest possible argument for hanging on to it as long as possible.

All new ideas are "fads." Experts are too competent to be tolerated. What teachers recommend must be wrong. Learning disqualifies; skill hampers; wisdom is a fault. None of these faults are found in journalists; hence their recognized fitness as advisers of the public. Is this your logic?

## UNIFORM, NOT SCIENTIFIC

The method of notation adopted by the Simplified Spelling Society has been much criticized as unsatisfactory from the fonetic point of view. But it does not profess to be a fonetic alphabet, in the scientific sense. It professes only to be a uniform method of notation, suited to immediate use by the very fact that it does not offer a separate and single symbol for each sound, or require the use of diacritic marks, or an exact notation of the vowels in unstressed syllables. By ignoring these requirements, which are essential in a truly fonetic system, the leaders of the Society hold that they are able to represent existing English pronunciation with uniformity and with tolerable accuracy, and are thereby enabled to present the whole question, in all essential details, to the consideration of the present educated public. They wish to teach by object-lessons.

They expressly reject the idea, which has gained some currency, that their scheme has been put forth as a 'final' scheme. Mr. Sydney Walton, the executive secretary, said, in a letter printed in the *Dundee Advertiser*, June 19, 1912: "The system advocated by this Society does not profess to be anything more than a basis for discussion. We welcome frank suggestion and criticism." Answering a like comment in an other

paper (the *Cambria Daily Leader*, Swansea, June 27, 1912), Mr. Walton says:

"We did not submit our scheme as a final thing, a tuum-stoen on which letters were chizeld for ever. We submit it as a basis for discussion and enquiry; we welcome suggestion and improvements."

## AN OMITTED PLANK

It will be noted that one of the members of the Simplified Spelling Board is this year a candidate for the presidency of the United States. Room has been found for him in the 'Third Party'; but we observe that simplified spelling was not included among the simplicities of the platform adopted by the convention of the 'Third Party' at Chicago, August 6. No doubt this was an oversight, due to the fact that the other great parties had unaccountably omitted simplified spelling in their own miscellanies of progressive professions.

If the issue becomes prominent in the campaign now in progress, we may expect all the great parties to publish 'Sunday supplements' covering this great issue, taking a firm stand, with one foot on one side, and the other foot on the other side, with one eye lifted heavenward, and the other bent downward, to see how the land lies. Indeed, we feel sure that all the candidates would favor a rational spelling, if there were no opposition to it.

And if any one of the candidates should be elected, and should put the principle of simplified spelling into practice, there would be much matter for reflection and paragraphs.

## NOT ENGLISH

There are many good men who object to certain phrases. They say, "It is not English." They object to certain words—"It is not English." And they object mightily to certain spellings—"It is not English."

What is the "English" of these critics? Their intention is reasonable, but are their dicta correct? Do they show any knowledge of the English language beyond this petty day? Do they show any knowledge of English literature beyond the newspapers that perish and the magazines that are dumped? Do they show any knowledge of English spelling beyond the stereotyped spelling-books? Have they published any works on the English language, English etymology, English spelling, English pronunciation, or

English grammar? Are they known as scholars and experts among other scholars and experts? When they say "It is not English," do they know it is not English? Or they are simply oracular?

Now, it is well to have a standard of English; it is well to respect that standard; and it is well to say that a word or a spelling is "not English," if you *know* that it is not English.

All spellings are English that are in accord with prevailing English rules and analogies. For example, the spellings *det* and *dout* are English according to English rules and analogies, and according to history. The spellings *debt* and *doubt*, and *beauty*, *manœuvre*, and the like, are really "not English," but are perverted or foren forms, containing a sequence of letters wholly unknown to the standard of the English language. They are resident aliens. They must be naturalized or else deported.

### VARIATION FOR USE

Many reformers object to any regulation of the conventional spelling, on the ground that the conventional spelling by such regulation can not be made sufficiently accurate; and they predict—many of them, indeed, greatly desire—the adoption of a complete fonetic notation.

But predictions refer to the future, and the future has a way of keeping ahead of the present. We may prophesy; but let us also act.

But even if a fonetic alfabet is establisht, it would be worth while to complete the task of simplifying the existing spelling according to English analogies. In the spelling of Shakespeare, of Milton, of Dryden, of Pope, of Cowper, of Tennyson, of Lowell, in many fazes of English literature, and in representations of dialect, we have many forms of English spelling, which we use and apply, for various historical, literary, and scientific purposes. Many thousand persons have for a long time been using many variations of spelling.

And in all this there is no harm. There is, in fact, much good. It has increast our knowledge of the English language, our interest in it, and our ability to use it. It will be a great and a useful achievment if the present reformers of spelling work out and establish a convenient regulation of the present English spelling, in any degree between the conservativ simplifications thus far adopted by the Simplified Spelling

Board, and the advanst or 'radical' spelling adopted by the Simplified Spelling Society, or something still more advanst.

English spelling is not a single tool that can have only one form; it is a set of instruments that are capable of infinit diversification for use in infinit ways and places, without loss of their value. Diversification is genius; variation is life; and change is the most interesting thing in the world.

### "MANŒUVRES"

The *New York Times*, June 26, 1912, referd to "the curtailment, if not the abandonment, of the War Department's plan for joint manœuvres in July and August." It had been proposed to bring together 100,000 men for these "joint manœuvres." It would take about a thousand men to spell the word in that way, and more than 100,000 men to show that that joint spelling accords with any rule or analogy of the English language at any period of its checkerd history.

The *New York Evening Post*, June 26, 1912, referring to the same matter, reported that the troops of the National Gard "may not share manœuvres." Is n't there enuf of it to share? But we favor "the curtailment, if not the abandonment," of the "manœuvres."

How long will the War Department, the *New York Times*, the *Evening Post*, and other learned authorities continue to spell this English word in that Gallic fashion? No Englishman, no American, pronounces the word in the Gallic way.

Even the "old-fashiond Webster's Dictionary" does better. It spells the English word *maneuver*, which clearly outgenerals the French in this matter. The spelling *manuver* would be better, because the common pronunciation is not *ma-nyu'-vər*, as the spelling *maneuver* would imply. Most of the gallant fellows who take part in *manœuvres* (no matter how speld) pronounce them *ma-noo'-vers* (*mə-nū'vərz*). Sometimes, indeed, at midnight in their garded tents, they pronounce the *manœuvres* something very different—but not for publication.

If ten thousand American soldiers were opposed by twenty French soldiers, and if the victory of the American soldiers depended on their pronouncing *manœuvres* just as the twenty Frenchmen would, the whole ten thousand would be left gloriously ded on the field of battle, while the twenty heroic Frenchmen would roll their tungs in triumf over their *manœuvres*.

## A PUBLIC NEWSPAPER

Hamilton Holt, managing editor of *The Independent*, made an address August 1, at the first National Newspaper Conference, held at the University of Wisconsin, setting forth "a Plan for an Endowed Journal." The address is printed in *The Independent* of August 8, 1912, p. 299-303. The plan proposes the endowment of a weekly newspaper which will print the news and present the opinions of all classes of men, with entire impartiality. "It would have no policy of its own except to publish reliable news and competent discussion of the events and questions of the times. Its motto would be 'Comprehensiveness, Impartiality and Accuracy.' It would not, however, be a dry and colorless sheet, but more readable and interesting than any now published, because of the diversity of views and the ability with which they are discussed. The editors would have it in their power by their choice of topics and authors to direct public attention to what they regard as most important, while at the same time they would afford an opportunity to any one to voice any view he wishes, provided it is done with due regard for the decorum of debate." (p. 302.)

"Assuming, then, the existence of such an endowed weekly, what are some of the things it might reasonably be expected to do? I mention only a few of many that will occur to you all.

"It would present a more complete report than is now possible of the important happenings in all countries.

"It would not exaggerate the importance of violence and war by making them conspicuous and sensational. It would direct the attention of the people to the triumphs of peace by giving proper prominence to industrial and scientific progress, which is generally ignored by the newspapers of today. . .

"Whenever there was a disturbance in any part of the country, such as a race riot, election outbreak or strike, it would send into the field a corps of trained investigators whose sole purpose would be to discover the truth and to tell it, not to foment discord or to create a sensation. . .

"The endowed journal would secure opinions upon pending questions of the day, such as the tariff, high cost of living, and patent laws, from the best informed authorities, sociologists, economists, financiers, statisticians, historians and business men.

"It would not only have competent criticism

of art and literature from diverse standpoints, but could also establish a *new department, much more valuable to the people* which has hitherto been impossible because of fear of the advertisers, namely *criticism of commodities*. In this department experts would treat other things in the same way as books and pictures are now treated. All the automobiles, typewriters, soaps, safety razors or piano-players on the market would be impartially compared, pointing out frankly their comparative merits and specific defects. Being endowed it could afford to defend itself from the libel suits which might be expected to follow until the public got used to this novel kind of criticism."

The address ends with a magnificent appeal:

"An endowment of \$5,000,000 would provide sufficient funds to carry out this plan. Who will give it?"

A public newspaper, so established, would give to all men and women with intellectual and moral ideas an opportunity to bring those ideas before the public, in a clear and pure atmosphere, and without the suppression and distortion which such ideas now encounter from the proprietary and partizan newspapers. The opportunity would be especially welcome to the advocates of minority causes, that is, to the advocates of all reforms, and to the workers for social regeneration.

Among the causes which Mr. Holt had in mind, which would thus have their opportunity to be heard, was no doubt the simplification of English spelling—an intellectual, educational, scientific cause, with moral and social relations of great importance; but a cause inadequately presented, or ridiculed and distorted, or wholly ignored and suppressed, by the proprietary newspapers and the complacent organs of privilege and prejudice.

## A TOUR OF OBSERVATION

Professor George H. Danton, of Butler College, Indianapolis, a member of the Advisory Council, made in July and August, on behalf of the Simplified Spelling Board, a tour of observation among the summer schools of some of the universities in the Middle West. He visited in succession the University of Michigan (July 1-5), the National Education Association at Chicago (touching incidentally the University of Chicago and the Northwestern University), (July 6-13), the University of Wisconsin (July 14-20), the University of Minnesota (July

21-24), the University of Missouri (July 25-28), the University of Illinois (July 29-Aug. 1), the University of Indiana (Aug. 2-5), and the University of Ohio (Aug. 6-11).

He spent four or more days at each place, ascertaining the state of local opinion, the personal attitude of the leading men, the signs of local promise or difficulty and the general symptoms of the local powers that be. He has made a report of his observations for the information of the Executive Committee.

### OPPOSING — A POSE

"Sir, a man who would make a pun would pick a pocket." These energetic words, ascribed erroneously to Dr. Johnson, give expression to a common literary feeling, averse to the most common form of literary humor. Writers before Johnson, and many writers since, have expressed the opinion that puns are dreadful things. The usual word is 'atrocious.' And many persons fall into this way of speech.

But it is a mere way of speech. We do not really dislike puns. We all make puns — some that are truly 'atrocious.' We enjoy punning. But we like to pretend a horror of it. We denounce it with alliteration — "Sir, a man who would make a pun would pick a pocket." But alliteration is incompatible with indignation. He who alliterates is not angry.

Shakespeare punned. Clearly he was happy, and not horrified; he enjoyed it; and to this day the galleries giggle when Shakespeare's puns penetrate the recesses of their intellects. No one of any literary sense or any liveliness of mind really objects to punning in moderation. Some puns are better than other puns; but they are all more or less amusing — the worst ones being, for the general public, quite as amusing as the best. The objection to puns is thus unreal. It is a literary tradition. It is a literary pose.

In the same way, it is a literary tradition to object to new spellings. Writers and speakers profess horror at what are called 'bad' spellings. They say it makes them 'shudder' or 'shiver.' They say it gives them a 'pain.' They use many vivacities of speech to imply that any spelling different from that which they happen to know or to approve, excites in them emotions of horror and anguish. This also is a literary tradition. It arose out of the sense of humor. There is something amusing about a difference of spelling, just as there is about a difference in hats or

coats, or of umbrellas or beards. Incongruities, differences suddenly noticed, are always amusing. And writers and talkers of a humorous tendency have used this elementary fact 'for all it's worth,' and more. It is part of their assets.

Now, humorous ways of speech, repeated by successive generations of humorous writers and speakers, become conventional and traditional. They are taken up by readers and speakers who have no humor in them. Writers who really have no sense of humor, or only its elements, like 'George Eliot' and George Meredith, present in their books characters intended to be humorous, who say things intended to be humorous — things that *are* humorous. It is literary skill adapting a literary convention. The real thing is not there, but the imitation is almost as good. In Dickens and Thackeray the humor is real. In 'George Eliot' and George Meredith it is a literary adaptation. This explains also much of the so-called 'humor' that abounds in the daily press, and in the cheap magazines.

The objection, then, to simplified spelling is in great part a literary pose. The utterances against it are literary traditions. The persons who profess horror at 'bad spellings' do not feel horror; for it makes them happy to say so. A man may regret that his wife or his son (or perhaps his father's son) is a 'bad speller,' and a teacher may be vexed to find that many of her pupils survive her best efforts and leave the high school invincible 'bad spellers.' But there is no horror in this. It is a comical regret. It is an amused vexation. Of course, a serious man may seriously object to any change in spelling, and give reasons that, if not scientific, are at least human and excusable.

But most of the opposition is traditional, arising in a humorous pose. Some of the opposition, of course, is original, and is expressed with genuine humor. As we have intimated, the subject invites humor, and indeed makes it inevitable; and it is no wonder that some lively writers have made much of it. We ourselves, on the modern side of the fence, have more fun with spelling, simplified and unsimplified, than any other class of human beings. Come over and play with us!

### MOTTO FOR MOONLIT REFORMERS

"Patience!" whispered the oaks from oracular caverns of darkness;  
And from the moonlit meadow a sigh responded,  
"To-morrow!"

—1848 LONGFELLOW, *Evangeline*, III, p. 124.

## SYLLABIC CONSONANTS

Are syllabic consonants found in English? This question seems to be a matter of debate; yet it can be settled with a single word—*settled*. Utter this word before a mirror, and watch the tip of the tongue. It rises towards the gums, leaving a narrow channel for *s*; then it falls for *e*, and finally rises to make a complete closure for *t*. It is fixed against the gums from the beginning of *t* to the end of *d*. The spoken word is therefore *setld*. In a word like *apple*, *p* may be joined to *l* by a brief *ə*. But it is also possible to raise the tongue for *l* before the lips open at the end of *p*; I suspect this is often done. To the ear, the only essential sound after *p* is *l*. It is true that peddlers sometimes shout *æpə...lɜ*, with a prolonged *ə*; and the same change may be heard in singing. Any one who says *æpəl* may transcribe his speech accordingly. But he should not ask the rest of us to write our utterance in the same way, unless he has made sure that we speak as he does.

In other cases the treatment of *l* depends on the nature of the consonant that it follows, or would follow if *ə* disappeared. It hardly has a chance to occur after the sounds *h*, *l*, *w*, *y*. Most of the other consonants admit a following syllabic *l* for *le* and for *l* written after a vowel letter; we make no difference between *metal* and *mettle* in ordinary speech, whatever elocutionists may think we ought to say. I keep *ə* after *r*, as *barrel* = *bærəl*; it seems to be common after *sh* and *zh*, as in *special*, *cudgel*. The common use of syllabic *l*, in former times, is apparent in such words as *gristle*, *whistle*; it is not likely that these could have lost *t* unless it stood next to the *l*-sound. Salesbury, who wrote a Welsh dictionary in the 16th century, transcribes *thistle*, *twinkle*, *wrinkle*, with *l* for final *le*; there is little reason for doubting that such words have had syllabic *l* from his time to ours. Of course at an earlier period final *e* meant a vowel-sound, as it still does in German.

Syllabic *n* in *reddend* = *rednd* may be investigated in the same way as the *l* of *settled*. Here the changes from *d* to *n*, and back to *d*, are made by the velum (soft palate); they can not be seen, except indirectly by stopping the nostrils so that the *n*-breath puffs them out. I use *ən* after sounds that take *əl*; also after *n* and certain groups that admit syllabic *l*, as *cannon* = *kænən*, *lenten* = *lentən*, but *rental* = *rentl*.

Words like *settling* and *reddening* may be

spoken with two syllables or with three, and in poetry such forms can be treated either way, according to the requirements of meter. Yet in ordinary speech no *ə* seems to be used before the *l* or *n*. The longer forms differ, to the ear, mainly in the duration of *l* or *n*; they might be transcribed *setl-ing*, *redn-ing*. This is sufficient for the guidance of English-speaking persons; but I do not feel sure that it is strictly accurate. The question may be understood better if we take a word-stem not restricted to one stress, as *fascinate* and *fascination*. I think it is safe to say (without looking up the matter) that most of the dictionaries give to the second vowel the sound of *i* (as in *going*). But in common speech such a stressless *i*, at the end of a syllable before a consonant, tends towards *ə*. And then the *ən* tends to become *n* (to the ear). But really it is the *ə* that becomes *n*; for whether we say *fæsnnêshən* or *fæsnêshən*, the stressed syllable clearly contains *n*. It would therefore seem that we ought to transcribe the verb as *fæsnnêt* rather than *fæsn-êt*, to represent the form without *ə*; and likewise *settling*, *redning*, to indicate three syllables.

Syllabic *m* is found mainly after a labial consonant, as *keep 'em* = *kîpm*. I use (and have often heard) *əm* in words like *chasm*, *prism*, *rhythm*. Critics may say this is incorrect; but is it? *Fathom* comes from earlier *fadme*, *fæthm*. If a Saxon word can change *m* to *əm*, why not Greek? Such a development may seem undesirable; but at any rate it shows English to be a living tongue, able to assimilate what is in itself foreign and unnatural.

The syllabic velar nasal *ŋ* may be heard after a velar sound, as *looking* = *lûking*, also *lûkŋ*. Stressless *can* is often *kŋ* as well as *kən*. I do not label these forms 'correct' or 'incorrect'; I merely report what I sometimes hear spoken.

Some persons pronounce *aiders* like *Ada*'s. I always distinguish such words; the sound after *d* in *aiders*, *g* in *beggars*, may be considered syllabic *r*. It is made with the tongue-tip raised a little less than for *r* before a vowel sound. But neither variety has any trill, so that the difference between them could hardly be heard if the stronger *r* did not have 'rounding'; that is, it is formed with the lips drawn together nearly as for *w*. The syllabic (weaker) *r* may follow any consonant sound but *h*, which scarcely occurs in a completely stressless syllable.

E. H. TUTTLE.

New Haven, Conn., August 1, 1912.

## PIONEERING

The June number of *The Pioneer ov Simplified Speling* contains, among other things, a discussion of "The Reprezenaishon ov the OO Soundz" by Dr. J. L. Moore, and a letter on the same subject, entitled "The Dificult U", by Mr. Ezra Sykes. These correspondents propose a change in the notation adopted by the Society for the two sounds in *pool* (puul) and *pull* (pool). The editor calls for further discussion.

In the same number a provisional change is made in two details of the scheme, namely, "i haz been yuezd to reprezent the fienal y; and the diegrafs *ee*, *ie*, *oe*, *uu*, *yue* hav not been redyuest when fienal, ecsept in the foloing monosilablz: *be*, *he*, *me*, *she*, *the*, *thre*, *we*, *I*, *bi*, *mi*, *whi*, *O*, *no*, *hu*, *thru*, *tu*, *yu*. Uther monosilablz retain the ful diegraf—for egzaampl, *a bee* (cp. the beez), *I noe* (cp. he noez), *I bie* (cp. he biez), *an ie* (cp. the iez). Our reederz", adds the editor of the *Pioneer*, "ar invieted tu ecspres thair opinion on the advieabiliti ov adopting this chainj, bi meenz of the apended poest card." (p. 49.)

This is the discussion, accompanied by experiment, which is so much to be desired, not only on the eastern bank of the Pond. Discussion with experiment has been known to produce good results even on the western bank of the Pond. Discussion without experiment makes itself air, into which it vanishes.

## ADDED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. J. F. Boyce, one of the Inspectors of Schools of Alberta, with headquarters at Red Deer in that province, has been elected to the Advisory Council. Mr. Boyce is an energetic and judicious man who has found that his duty as an inspector of schools in a great state that is rapidly increasing in population, requires him to take notis of real conditions and to put aside the traditional prejudices of older communities. In Alberta the air is open, the way is open, the schools are open, and Mr. Boyce, with many other inspectors and teachers, has welcomd the arrival of the twentieth century in that great province.

Dr. John B. Clark, lately professor in Columbia University, and now director of the Carnegie Foundation for the Promotion of Peace, with headquarters at Washington, has also been elected a member of the Advisory Council. He is the author of several books on political economy, and, like other men of science, he has recognized that

in the diffusion of modern ideas by means of the English language, it is important to present that language in a modern and rational form.

## OUR LITTLE HATCHET

To a cable dispatch from Victoria, Australia, dated Melbourne, March 29, 1912, stating that "Opposition is being shown today to the Director of Education's edict insisting upon a reform in spelling following the American method," one New York paper put the hedline: "AUSTRALIA AGAINST REFORM IN SPELLING"

That is, if opposition is "shown" anywhere, by anybody, in one province of a nation, that nation is "against" the idea.

Why can we not apply the principle to our own side, and proclaim "New York State for Simplified Spelling"? There is only one obstacle in the way. It is the same obstacle that hamperd little George Washington: "Father, I can not tell a hedline lie."

## HIRPLING IN SCOTLAND

The *Evening Express* of Aberdeen (Scotland), June 6, 1912, prints the following:

A professor came all the way from London to talk to a gathering of Aberdeen teachers and others last night on what the Simplified Spelling Society calls the "Nyu Speling." Spelling and grammar in our school days recall the description of wasps given by a child who was taken to the country from a city slum for the first time. "Wasps," the child said, "are pretty and yellow, but they are unkind." We all know how unkind spelling and grammar can be, and there are few of us who would not raise a statue to the reformer who will simplify them both, and save our children and our children's children from their toils. Professor Rippmann, of London University, would have us all spell by sound, but he is up against the etymologists all the time, and all of us now alive, we fear, will have to hirple along all our days as best we can trying to spell as the lexicographers have laid the hurdles down.

"The etymologists" again! They are fearsome bogles to our hirpling frends.

## GLAD TO DROP IT

An inspector of schools in Melbourne, Australia, writes thus concerning the recent action of the Director of Education in the promotion of a simpler spelling:

Small as the step is, it caused quite a local storm. The leading newspaper here is very conservative in such matters and opened its columns to any one who could oppose the simplifications or pour ridicule on them. But in the end the paper seemed glad to drop the argument on the matter.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. H. G. Wells has given permission to the Simplified Spelling Society to publish one of his stories, "The Star," in their advanst style of spelling.

It is announst that Mr. William Archer upon his return from his tour round the world, will undertake a course of lectures in Great Britain upon the movement for Simplified Spelling. Professor Rippmann will continue his lectures, and other members of the society have also made engagements to speak.

Sir William Ramsay writes "The Week's Message" in *The Woman Teacher's World*, of London. The "Message" is written in the advanst spelling of the Simplified Spelling Society, and is heded "The Leson ov Siens." The Leson ends thus: "Let every teecher hu reedz theez lienx ov mien tri and convins herself hou eez yz this nyu speling. And, wuns that convicshon iz gaind, it wil cary with it the beleef that sum form ov reformd speling must be adopted. I cloez with the wurdz of Whitney az being speshaly aproepriait: 'It iz the jeneraishonz ov children tu cum hu apeel tu us to saiv them from the aflicshon which we hav endyuerd and forgotten.'"

Mr. Marston Lovell Hamlin, of Columbia University, has printed in simplified spelling his "Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the faculty of Pure Science of Columbia University." The Dissertation consists of three parts, of which the third is "Derivativs of 4-Hydroxy-5-Nitro-Quinazoline." His use of simplified spelling has the approval of the hed of the Chemical department, Professor Marston T. Bogert. The dissertation is introduced by two quotations, one from Anglo-Saxon poetry and one from Old Norse poetry. The rest is modern—to a degree.

We notis in "The Rules for Writing Themes, and Marks used in Correcting Themes," a circular printed by the professor of rhetoric in Earlham College, Ind., for the use of his freshmen, a considerable number of simplified spellings. Not only *draft*, but *paragraf*; with *markt*, *gaind*, *obtained*, *pind*, *eufony*, and of course *thru*.

A South Indian Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society has been formd, with hedquarters at Madras. It is issuing printed prospectuses and letters and is attracting much attention. The *Madras Mail* has printed many

columns on the movement. Science and paper, reason and ink—who can resist these "four champions fierce"?

The *Halifax Herald*, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, which is said to have the largest circulation of any Canadian newspaper east of Montreal, is now using the simplified spelling, including *thru*, *thruout*, and almost all of the Three Hundred Words. It is rumord that this paper is redy to adopt a few more simplifications.

Simplified spelling has been introduced into the *Bulletin of the Chicago Numismatic Society*. In the May number, 1912, there is a record of a dinner at which "a flash-light fotograf was taken," and at which, among other things, "roast spring lam" was servd. But it was servd with "mince sauce." This will not do. Mince pie is good—nothing better—but "mince sauce" is an innovation—perhaps by some teetotal compositor, who did not like to mention mint sauce lest it should suggest mint julep.

The British press continues to print many letters concerning the Simplified Spelling Society, and the general movement for the regulation of English spelling. The letters are pro and con—most of them very much so. The editorial comments are often frendly in a general way; but they are mainly conservativ, and some are decidedly hostile. We note the frequent editorial paragraf appended to a batch of letters—"this correspondence must now close," or words to that effect. And usually for the same reason. So much interest is shown in the matter that the correspondence encroaches upon the space allotted to other matters. And yet there are some who will say that the subject does not interest the public, or that the movement is ded. The myth of the ostrich that hides its hed in the sand must have had its origin in observation of human beings.

Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, a member of the Advisory Council, the literary editor of *The Independent*, took a trip to Australia this summer. He met there a number of the men who are interested in the movement for the regulation of English spelling. He reported his observations in a letter written in the Fiji Islands. It was not expected one hundred years ago that the regulation of English spelling would be discust in the Fiji Islands. Let us hope that the United States will not fall behind the Fiji Islands in this intellectual movement.

File

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

VOL. IV

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No. 3

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## SPELLING BEES AND BINGO

With the opening of the schools in September, a great many teachers and superintendents perceived that it was vastly important to spend some time on spelling. In Baltimore, we are told, one principal, Dr. Ernest J. Becker, "discovering that girls attending the Eastern High School were deficient in spelling, . . . has found it necessary to establish a special class in orthography. He has compiled a list of words which will be used in daily lessons in the school." Assistant Superintendent Koch says, "It is out of my department, and, of course, I have nothing to do with it. I am certain, however, that it can do no harm" (Baltimore *Sun*, October 28).

Similar reports come from other places. William P. Evans, state superintendent of schools in Missouri, "has appointed a committee of sixteen members, one from each of the congressional districts of the state, to arrange for another State spelling match" next spring. Mr. Uzzell, county superintendent of schools, of Edwardsville, Missouri, has arranged for a county spelling match on January 25.

At the Maryland State Fair at Laurel, October 30, "a leading event of the day was a spelling contest and the awarding of prizes in gold coin, amounting to \$50, to six young girls, winners in an old-fashioned 'spelling bee,' held in the main exhibition building" (Baltimore *Sun*, October 31).

"About one hundred men, women and children attended the spelling bee held," October 31, "at the Keystone School, No. 4, about one mile from Marysville," Penn. "A fifteen minute recess was then given, and everybody, old and young, took part in a game called bingo" (Harrisburg *Patriot*). Between the game called spelling and the game called bingo, there is not much choice. But for personal reasons, we vote

in favor of bingo. For we used to sing "Way Down on the Bingo Farm."

At the 57th annual teachers' institute of Chester county, Penn., October 31, the teachers had their "annual spelling contest." Among other things "The Purpose of Recitation" was discussed by four teachers. The report does not state what the purpose is.

At Everett, Washington, October 30, "a meeting of grade teachers was held, at which was presented the need of greater emphasis upon the study of spelling."

It will be seen that teachers and superintendents who believe in spelling as it is, whatever it may be, are making noble efforts to enforce the required drudgery in learning it.

## PRESENT-DAY BALDERDASH

One hears, for instance, many people pronounce the word *young* as though the *o* were not there at all, giving it the full nasal tone as in *stung*; but a trained voice will render the unique tenderness of those five letters, incomparable in our language.

These words are not from the records of Bedlam. They are taken from an article against "the new spelling," published in *The New Age*, London, September 19, page 493, and they appear under the head of "Present-Day Criticism."

After that, one may expect anything; and we find this:

It is in differentiating the tones of such diversely charged words as *Almighty*, *awful*, *enormous*, that we fail most often. The present writer has heard a lecturer destroy the effect of a sentence containing the last word—*enormous*: the *or* was tunnelled, as it were, through the cheeks tightly drawn, instead of the tone being expanded symbolically over the tongue held low, tip close to the lower teeth, from the larynx that should be widened. In pronouncing this word quickly, naturally good speakers will instinctively draw in the abdomen. Such a speaker will instinctively allow the time and quality of the dropped *e* in *awful*, making a proper hiatus; and he will lift the first syllable in "Almighty" with the liquid *l* sent upward by the tongue to the roof of the mouth.

Is this to be taken as a fair sample of the "present-day criticism" of the new age?

## LIGHT FROM THE *EVENING SUN*

In the *Evening Sun*, New York, October 21, 1912, there was an editorial on simplified spelling, which was correct in statement, polite in manner, and just in argument. It began:

A thousand reasons are at the disposal of any one who objects to a violent and radical transformation of our written language; but since they are not all of equal value, it is a thousand pities that the opponents of the so-called "simplifiers" should be so prone to choose the worst. There are few to-day who fall into the blunder—common enough a few years since—of declaring themselves "satisfied with the spelling of Shakespeare and the Bible"—like the good old lady who objected to the Revised Version of 1881 on the plea that she wanted the Psalms "just as David wrote them." But if absurdities of this sort have been to some extent eliminated, others that are not much better survive, and crop up with great regularity whenever the process of simplification is under discussion.

It then comments upon the letter of Mr. Filson Young in the *Academy*, which we quote elsewhere. It treats the whole matter in a satisfactory manner, quotes the late Professor Skeat, and concludes with the following words:

We fear that those who are most jealous of the precious history of our language know least about it. It is certainly disconcerting to remark that the scholars who know most about it are apt to accept proposals of reform with wonderful equanimity. There are practical reasons upon which objections can fairly be made to certain reforms lately suggested, but upon the whole it is imprudent to sentimentalize about our lovely spelling on the historical score.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain is receiving many new members. There have been some notable additions to the officers. Among the vice-presidents lately elected are Dr. Michael Sadler, C. B., vice-chancellor of the University of Leeds, and Mr. H. G. Wells, the novelist. The managing Committee consists of: Mr. William Archer, M.A.; Dr. E. B. Edwards; Miss Ethel Gavin, Wimbledon Hill School for Girls; Mr. F. H. Heath, C.B., Ph.D.; Professor H. Stanley Jevons; Professor Daniel Jones; Professor Arthur S. Napier, D.Litt.; Mr. Alfred W. Pollard, the bibliographer; Professor Walter Rippman; and Miss Mary Spalding Walker, B.A., of the Roan School for Girls. This committee well represents the literary and scientific scholarship, and the modern educational spirit of Great Britain.

Mr. Archer, the honorary secretary, has been making observations in the Far East. He expects to return at the end of January and to begin, then, a tour of lectures. Various local branches of the National Union of Teachers, the most powerful organization of its kind in Great Britain, are asking the Society to send lecturers.

It is expected that the question of simplification will come up at the national conference of the National Union of Teachers.

Among the recent accessions to the Society are: Dr. G. B. Hunter, chairman of Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson, Ltd., the builders of the *Mauretania*; Professor W. H. D. Rouse, the eminent classical scholar, head-master of Perse Grammar School, Cambridge; Rev. W. Temple, head-master of Repton School; and Mr. Tim Healy, one of the leaders of the Home Rule party in the House of Commons.

## SEVEN YEARS OF SIMPLE SPELLING

The *New York Times* of October 14, 1912, contained a letter from Professor Brander Matthews, of Columbia University, on the progress made by the movement for simplified spelling since the organization of the Simplified Spelling Board in 1906. The letter had a conspicuous place on the editorial page of the newspaper, and was in the simplified spelling used by Professor Matthews. The letter has been reprinted in a circular for general distribution among the friends of the cause. After asserting that the Board had accomplished "more than its most sanguine members dared to hope for when the work began," and instancing the way in which "certain of our briefer orthographies are stealthily creeping into more general use," Professor Matthews says:

"We are told that in seven years men change their bodies; and the efforts of the Simplified Spelling Board in its seven years of activity have led many men to change their minds. As Professor Lounsbury put it pithily, one of our main purposes is 'the gradual diffusion of intelligence among the educated classes.' We have pretty well broken down the superstition that the dictionary is divinely inspired; and we have disestablished the twin belief that there is now and has always been a fixed and final standard of English spelling, to depart from which is to sin against light. A more general knowledge now exists that our orthography has never been uniform, and that it has always been changing, either for the better or for the worse, ever since the language first began to be written. . . . Very rarely do we hear the outworn argument that any attempt to better spelling will bring confusion and conceal etymology.

Indeed, the most of our opponents have relinquished argument. They take refuge now in a frank declaration of prejudice in favor of the spellings they happen individually to prefer. . . . But we can not fail to feel encouraged when we note how quickly the atmosphere of arrogant hostility has been dissipated and how much more open-minded the discussion has become. And we are still more encouraged when we call the roll of the prominent educators who have been won over and who are seeing to it that the rising generation shall not harden into the prejudice which may have possessed their parents. It is in the schools that we have done our best work; and it is among the teachers that we have our strongest allies. This might have been expected, since the cumbersome and illogical spelling taught in our schools is responsible for an immense waste of time—and also for the pupils' injurious reliance on rule and rote rather than on observation and deduction.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Mr. D. A. McKerricher, Inspector of Schools, Lethridge, Alberta, said, in a private letter, September 21, 1912, to a member of the Council: "I may say that at least half of the Inspectors in this province are in favor of spelling reform." The subject of Simplified Spelling was to have a place on the program at the next teachers' convention in Alberta.

The *Journal of Education* of Nova Scotia, October, 1912, devotes nine pages (pages 175-183) to "Orthographic Opinions," including extracts from newspapers and reports concerning the progress of simplified spelling in England, in Scotland, in Ontario, in the United States, and in Portugal. The article includes copies of recent circulars issued by the Ontario Branch of the Simplified Spelling Society, and recommends "those interested in the subject to communicate with either or both centers—England or New York."

Professor Robert Lee Ramsay, of the University of Missouri, made an address on simplified spelling at the meeting of the Missouri State Teachers' Association, at Springfield, Mo., November 15.

The "Final Report of the Committee" on the course of study, made to the Provincial Education Association, Nova Scotia, August, 1912, contains a recommended course of study in all the branches of education. In English, recommendations as to spelling and writing are given for all the grades. Under the heading "Spelling in Grade VII," p. 41, the following paragraph appears:

How a simple and rational method of spelling would promote education and especially the education of the masses! An average period of two years spent by each person in learning to spell according to present system. Under a rational system spelling could be mastered in two months.

The Butler College *Collegian*, Indianapolis, Indiana, of October 9, contains an article on simplified spelling. It is extremely reasonable; for it is selected entirely from our own publications. Mr. Buck, the editor-in-chief, has written a number of articles on simplified spelling for Indiana newspapers.

Professor George O. Curme, of Northwestern University, in an article on the "Force and Function of *Solch*" (the German equivalent of the English *such*) in the November number of *Modern Language Notes* (vol. 27, pp. 203-206),

uses an advanced form of simplified spelling; and the editors of *Modern Language Notes* sit back and smile, while this professor "destroys," again, the orthography, etymology, syntax and prosody of "our noble English tongue."

Dr. David Solon, principal of the Provincial Normal School, Truro, Nova Scotia, and a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, made an address before the Provincial Educational Association of Prince Edward Island (September 28, 1912), on the educational and other needs of the Atlantic provinces of Canada. *The Patriot*, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., prints the address in full in its issue of October 30, and prints it, as it was written, in simplified spelling—a fact that some of the other Canadian newspapers notice with not unpleased surprise. The Halifax (N. S.) *Morning Chronicle*, of November 16, for instance, reprints an extended comment on the address from the *Toronto Star*. The *Star's* article begins as follows:

A gentleman in Nova Scotia has achieved a notable feat. He has filled about seven columns of the *Charlottetown Patriot* with a thoughtful paper on the condition of the Maritime Provinces, and he has used reformed spelling.

We have read it all word by word and spelling by spelling and feel that our time was not wasted. Aside from the spelling and aside from the remedy for the economic evils complained of, the paper is a thoughtful and interesting one.

The authorities of Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, have sent a circular to the colleges and universities of the state, pressing the use of a considerable number of simplified spellings, and agreeing to use these in their own publications, if two-thirds of the other institutions will do the same. The faculty of James Milliken University voted, November 19, to "support the present movement among Illinois colleges to adopt simplified spelling in all publications and correspondence." Two or three other institutions have accepted the proposal under the rather stiff conditions. But the adoption of the proposal by even one college would be a gain.

## ALL THAT GRAFFIC WILL BEAR

We quote from a newspaper the following story:

Joel Chandler Harris, the author of *Uncle Remus*, was at his desk one night when an old-time reporter looked over and said: "Joe, how do you spell 'graphic'? With one 'f' or two?" "Well," said the kindly Uncle Remus, who was too gentle to hurt even a common adjective, "if you are going to use any, Bill, I guess you might as well go the limit."

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## TEACHERS DON'T COUNT!

It is reported from one of the universities of the Middle West that the assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts says that "educated people are not connected with the schools, so that the adoption of simplified spelling removes the marks of the educated person." This will interest some teachers.

"The adoption of simplified spelling removes the marks of the educated person"—education, of course, consisting solely in the ability and willingness to use the traditional English spelling; and as "educated persons are not connected with the schools", all the support that the movement obtains among the teachers in the schools goes for naught.

Truly, a desperate case. It simply would not do "to remove the marks of the educated person", tho the assistant dean whom we have quoted has certainly succeeded in the attempt, in his own person.

## IT IS TO THINC

The *Saturday Review* of October 12, 1912, contains an article on simplified spelling by Mr. Filson Young. It begins, "I have had one bout with the simplified spellers and I am for another." The article is cheerful and amusing, and not very unreasonable for an article in the *Saturday Review*. Mr. Young does not admire the plan or the printing of the Simplified Spelling Society. He says, "The plan is fairly obvious; it arises from that most dangerous thing, an attempt to be consistent." Quoting the lines from 'John Gilpin' in S. S. S. simplicity—

"The toelmen thincing as befor  
That Gilpin ran a rais,"

Mr. Young thus makes game: "There is one treasure discovered here, which shows that even when one is perversely pursuing the path of error, one may stumble by chance on some good

thing. This good thing is the word which describes the mental processes of the tollgate-men who, as Gilpin rode by, were "thincing." This is a good word. To *thince* is to employ a lighter, thinner, and more dilute brew of the mind than thought; to *think* is to take trouble and do something hard, with an effort; to *thince* is to begin well, but to give up the struggle and let it go at that; it is just what the 'toelmen' did when Gilpin fled by with the 'sics jentlmen,' and the 'poestboi.' It is a good word, and I thank this society for it."

And well he may. Because it will supply him and other opponents of simplified spelling with a word which will express their mental action much better than *think*. We have often wondered why they use the word *think* in reference to their statements and objections.

## THE ARTLESS DODGER

Seeking to learn the position of various professors toward the movement for simplified spelling, we heard this report of one professor, the dean of a western university:

"Dodges all questions; dodged this."

Do deans dodge? Do professors evade any questions? Do instructors of youth avoid expressions of opinion? May deans and doctors dodge?

Some of them do, indeed, dodge; and not without reason, on the plane of expediency. They do not consciously intend to dodge for ever. Their great aim is to postpone—to wait until things are "ripe for action." There is in this the charm of a masterly inactivity.

Sometimes, no doubt, this is good strategy. It may be the wisdom of the serpent of reform, who lies low today, intending to sting tomorrow.

But we fear that there are some deans and doctors, and some professors and superintendents, who have no clear view, or any intent, as to the future; but content themselves with dodging from day to day, or from term to term—avoiding action, not in order to choose a time for effective action, but merely to avoid any action, and to get home to dinner. Sufficient unto the day is the non-action thereof—count that day lost whose low-descending sun views from thy hand a useful action done.

Simplified spelling is not the only question of education and of social reform that is concerned. This dean is not the only nominal leader in education and society who "dodges all questions," and who, when you bring up any new question, will dodge that.

Nevertheless, blessed is he that dodges, for he shall escape trouble, today and tomorrow. But let him know, that for all these things his fellow-men will one day bring him into judgment. Dodge for ten years, and you will have no opinion; but the public will have an opinion of you.

### THE STYLE OF *THE BELLMAN*

*The Bellman* is a literary weekly published in Minneapolis, Minn. It devoted (June 22, 1912) nearly two of its valuable columns to an editorial under the exquisitely witty and original title of "Deformed Spelling" (p. 775). The article, however, is not adverse to the idea of an improved spelling. The editor criticizes the "scholars" who object to the idea and practice. He says: "Scholars hurl mud at each other from their academic sanctums, and there is a general tendency to vilify and revile every one whose spelling of 'thought' differs from our own." He continues: "In the first place, we must all admit that English spelling is absurd. . . . The fundamental absurdity of our spelling lies in the fact that our whole system of representing sounds has gone astray." . . . And so on.

Then the editor leans back upon the comfortable lounge of despair. He says: "Our spelling is anomalous, and anomalous it will remain. . . . Let us spell according to established usage."

Thus the editor; but we notice that two of the 'departments' of *The Bellman* are supplied, one by a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, Professor Burton, and another by a member of the Advisory Council, Mr. Nathan Haskell Dole.

### PRINCIPLES, NOT PARTICULARS

There are some advocates of simplified spelling who approve the idea, but doubt the practice; or approve the practice, but not for this or that word, or any other word specified. They approve the movement, but do not wish to see it move. They approve simplified spelling, but do not approve spelling simplified. Or they take the obvious, the established, forms only. They are willing to "accept" *medieval* for *mediaeval*, but will not accept *tho*. And most of them abhor *thru*. This they can not abide. But will they abide *anything* that is not medieval? Let them throw *tho* overboard; and, deeper than ever plummet sounded, let them drown *thru*. But let them choose *some* simplified forms and use

them—let men *see* their good works, in the form of some improved spellings.

So far as we are concerned, any one may hate *tho* and abhor *thru*, if he will only love *some* simplified spellings, and use them. But in this matter it is better to approve than to love. It is the principle, and not particular forms, that we desire to promote. The particular forms will be determined by the progressive party of improvement, from time to time, according to the extent to which the principle may then be accepted.

### A COMPLAINT

From Iowa comes this plaint from one of those great leaders of public opinion and advisors of educators and scholars, the daily newspapers, namely the Cedar Rapids *Republican*:

Why in the name of common sense do some of our educational institutions affect an extreme form of simplified spelling? In some of the schools and colleges of the state most of the final "e's" and similar letters are clipped off. It looks very awkward. . . . Simplified Spelling, like many other things, is well enough, if it comes logically and gradually, as logical things are apt to come. We used to spell "program" with a final "me" and "quartet" with a final "te," but, by common consent these endings of the French have been obliterated. So we will make other changes and simplifications, but they will come gradually and they will be gradually absorbed. Language is not something that stands still. It is a constant growth. But neither is it something that has to be arbitrarily operated upon.

In the meantime, let none of us get ahead of the procession, and let not our educational institutions set the silly clipped style that betokens faddishness and freakishness more than it betokens scholarship.

But how can this be true? Here we have a newspaper complaining that the practice of independent spelling is rife in a number of schools and colleges of a great state. And yet some newspapers tell us that no one uses simplified spelling except a few "faddish" and "freakish" persons whose opinions and practice are of no importance.

Note that good old phrase, that "changes will come gradually." Of course, they do not "come" at all. They are made.

Note also the blessed words that "language is a constant growth." By "language," these critics mean spelling. They know that there is no difference between language and spelling, just as they know that there is no difference between a tree and a sign nailed to it. Both "grow." And as wheat and barley, potatoes and apples, grow and gather themselves and walk to market without any attention in any period of their growth, so English spelling "grows," and "gradually" improves by constant inattention.

## WALTER W. SKEAT

Walter William Skeat, Professor of Anglo-Saxon in the University of Cambridge, a vice-president of the Simplified Spelling Board, and the first president, later a vice-president, of the Simplified Spelling Society, died October 7, 1912, at his home in Cambridge, in the 77th year of his age. At his funeral, October 11, there gathered a throng of scholars, literary men, university officers, representatives of many learned societies, and high officials of Great Britain, as well as his neighbors and friends of Cambridge, to testify their admiration and affection for their great associate and leader, a good man, whose life was given to the service of truth, and who wrought in sincerity for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among mankind.

His services to scholarship have been acknowledged in many journals, and will, no doubt, be the subject of some public and permanent memorial. His services to the cause of a rational spelling of the English language remain to be stated in the perspective of history. They were important and valuable in the days when the cause was neglected; they were no less important and valuable in these later days of progress and promise. I venture to quote here some passages from an appreciation contributed to the *New York Evening Post* of October 28, and reproduced, in part, in the *Literary Digest* of November 9, 1912:

Professor Walter W. Skeat was not only one of the great scholars of the world; he was one of the great public men of the British Empire. Without office or place, without political recognition or newspaper trumpeting, he was, nevertheless, one of the constructive statesmen of Anglo-Saxon civilization. Without aggression of arms or push of policy, he extended the domain of British influence and the sway of Anglo-Saxon thought. He and Dr. Furnivall, acting in accord, the leaders of a willing group of scholars, rescued from obscurity or oblivion the records of six centuries of English literature, and printed, on pages luminous with learning, the forgotten writings of ancient worthies and pioneers. These men, the founders and rulers of the early English Text Society, the Chaucer Society, the New Shakespeare Society, and the English Dialect Society, and other means of publication, restored to England what her negligent kings and stolid aristocracy had allowed to rust in oblivion.

By his labors in the line of English etymology alone, Professor Skeat achieved a permanency of fame and benefaction. No one can pursue the study of English etymology without using his works, and following his ways. His ways were the ways of truth, and his works, therefore, rest on the foundations of fact. . . .

Among the public services of Professor Skeat to the English language, and to the present and future students of that language, should be mentioned, as perhaps the greatest public service, his work for the regulation and simplification of English spelling. He knew English in all its changes from the oldest English or Anglo-Saxon times down. He was one of the few Englishmen who could read the whole English language. He had no illusions about the "spelling of Shakespeare" or the spelling of Shaw. He knew Chaucer and he knew Chesterton, each a child of his age, spelling and other fancies included. . . . He supported the earlier efforts of the Philological Society, in cooperation with the American Philological Association under the guidance of Professor March and Professor Whitney, to bring about a more enlightened state of public opinion in regard to the modernization of spelling. . . . On the formation of the Simplified Spelling Society, he became its president; and when advancing years made it seem necessary for him to diminish somewhat the variety of his work, he retired from the presidency in favor of Professor Gilbert Murray, the Regius Professor of Greek in Oxford University, and became one of the vice-presidents, continuing as a member of the executive committee.

The principles of English etymology and lexicography and the nature of spelling and printed forms, are established beyond any chance of overthrow; and the work to which Professor Skeat and Dr. Furnivall devoted their lives is still continued by a group of scientific scholars. At their head, the veteran Sir James A. H. Murray is now guiding into port the great Oxford English Dictionary, fraught with the gathered harvest of a thousand years of Anglo-Saxon thought and action. This great enterprise, which was from its beginning promoted by Dr. Furnivall, was in its course constantly aided by that indefatigable restorer of learning and pioneer of progress, Professor Walter W. Skeat.

C. P. G. S.

## "OUR TERRIBLE SPELLING"

At the late meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, Sir James Donaldson, principal of the University of St. Andrews, made a speech on spelling reform. It followed several papers on methods of teaching to read, write, and spell. A report of the speech has been printed.

This is not a new subject with Sir James Donaldson. He delivered an address upon it at the opening of the Association of St. Andrew, in 1906.

We quote a few passages from the report, changing the past tenses of the report into the present tense in which they were uttered.

Our terrible spelling, the bogie of children of all ages, is the work of the compositors—it is

the printers who did it. We are the slaves of the printers. If we don't spell according to them, they change us, and there is no redress. Shakespeare could not spell according to the printers, and they changed him over and over again. . . . I am convinced that the right way is for teachers not to regard spelling as a valuable exercise at all. Every one should be allowed to spell as he likes, just as Shakespeare did, and just as our ancestors did in early times, and just as children naturally do. If this were the case our children would be saved infinite trouble, and gain at least a whole year for other parts of their education.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING CONFERENCE

A conference in the interest of simplified spelling was held on Thursday evening, November 21, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York. Professor Henry A. Todd, of Columbia University, a member of the Advisory Council and formerly president of the Modern Language Association, presided. Mr. Norman F. Butler acted as secretary. Among those who spoke, besides Professor Todd, were Professor A. Latham Baker, of the Manual Training High School, Brooklyn; Mr. C. M. Bergstresser; Dr. Titus Munson Coan; Mr. Ernest Ingersoll; Mr. Adolph Linsenbarth, of the University Press, Cambridge, Mass.; Mr. Clarence E. Meleney, Associate City Superintendent of Schools, New York City; Mr. Henry Gallup Paine; Mr. Josiah Collins Pumpelly; Dr. Charles P. G. Scott; Mr. S. W. Simpson; and Professor Raymond Weeks, of Columbia University.

Others present were Professor Joseph Bowden, of Adelphi College, Brooklyn; Mr. W. L. Cochran; Mr. Edwin White Gaillard, of the New York Public Library; Mr. Ferdinand Nestlen; Mr. Thomas S. O'Brien, Associate City Superintendent of Schools, New York City.

Notes of regret expressing sympathy with the meeting were received from Professor David Arnold, of Washington Irving High School; Professor G. W. Botsford, of Columbia University; Mr. Arthur Crossley; Professor Henry W. Howe, of Columbia University; Mr. C. W. Jennings; Professor Rudolph Tombo, of Columbia University; Mr. Francis Wilson; and others.

Resolutions were adopted in favor of organizing a system of lectures to be given in New York, in connection with the People's Lecture Course, if possible; and also of printing in the BULLETIN a chronologic list of the titles of works related to simplified spelling or to fonetic notation. It was decided to hold several other meetings during the winter in New York City.

## BRITISH COMMENT

The British newspapers continue to notice the British movement for the regulation of English spelling, with great hospitality. They admit all ideas, with a preference, however, for ideas that are traditional and trusted. But can it be that the British newspapers are losing their powers of vituperation, or their desire to use those powers? Most of the British articles on the subject, in the last two months, have been fairly polite. But the good old way still survives. The *Birkenhead News*, for example, refers to the reformers as "a band of brigands" and "a cage of fiends." "Cage of fiends" is distinctly good. Even an American newspaper could not do better. In a less animated style the *Banffshire Journal* (October 15) gives a tolerant account of the progress of the movement in London:

In fashionable circles in the West End it is almost as frequent a subject of conversation as futurist pictures, theatrical novelties, or the latest revival of an old-world religion imported from the recesses of the Himalayas via Chicago. Indeed, it is a necessary part of a polite education in London to be *au fait* with the new spelling.

## JULIA RICHMAN

Miss Julia Richman, a member of the Advisory Council, who died in Paris, France, June 24, 1912, was a District Superintendent of Schools in New York City. At her funeral in New York, July 10, many leaders in education and social reform gathered to do honor to her beneficent life. A permanent memorial, that will continue her ideas, is in contemplation. Miss Richman was a woman of great ability and public spirit. She did pioneer work in establishing special classes for defective children; she did much to promote a wholesome interest in athletics among the boys and girls of the public schools; and she was notably successful in her work for wayward pupils. One of her most recent enterprises was the establishment of an employment agency for the benefit of children first by necessity to leave school and to go to work as soon as the school laws permit. She was one of the founders and directors of the Educational Alliance, and a member of its Committee on Education.

It was her strong conviction that the adoption of a simpler spelling of English would help the cause of good citizenship by saving time in teaching the language to foreigners, as well as to all children who are compelled to leave school early to become wage-earners. She therefore gave no

hesitating support to the movement for simplified spelling. At the fourth annual dinner of the Simplified Spelling Board (1910) Miss Richman made an earnest appeal for this reform. She cald it "The Cry of the Children."

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Carnegie Corporation of New York announst (November 25) its intention to offer a pension of \$25,000 a year to future ex-presidents of the United States if Congress shall not make some such provision by its own action. In explanation, Mr. Carnegie gave out (November 26) "a statement in his own reformed spelling, which he insisted must be followed in the paper." So said the New York *Times*, which was so tolerant on this occasion that it printed Mr. Carnegie's statement without intentional alteration.

Mr. Charles T. Platt, A.C., contributed an article entitled "Orthographical Progressiveness" to the Philadelphia *Stenographer* for October, 1912 (pp. 501-502). At the end he quotes "a writer in Chambers' Encyclopedia": "It is hard to reason men out of beliefs they have never been reasoned into."

Mr. O. C. Blackmer had a letter in the Chicago *Daily News*, Nov. 6, giving some reasons for thinking that a certain Chicago newspaper which volunteerd the information that "Brander Matthews appears to have gone back reluctantly to the old style," was mistaken. One of the reasons is, that Professor Matthews has not gone back to the old style; but this, of course, will seem a poor reason to the Chicago newspaper.

We observ that common sense is still making its way, even with "practical" men. Here is a trade journal ('stationery,' but progressiv) entitled "Common Sense . . . A Magazine of Levity and Brevity, publisht every month by Corlies, Macy & Co., Inc., 441 Pearl Street, New York City." It contains simplified spellings like *publisht*, *remarkt*, *developt*, *lithograft*, and *enuf*.

A certain "loan company" puts forth an alluring leaflet, which contains among other things this statement: "With us you will never jeopardize your furniture nor lose your piece of mind." Certainly you will never "jeopardize your furniture" if you give your full mind to it.

The program of the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association of America, to be held at Philadelphia, December 26, 27, 28,

1912, sparkles with simplicities of spelling, indicating that the Modern Language Association of America is endeavoring to be modern in respect to the English language.

The program contains on the first page, the following simplicities: Wil, tresurer, relativ, cronology, difthongs, alredy, caracteristic, publisht, comparativly, scholarship, scolarly, skilful, detaild, redy, dialog, strengthend. And the rest likewise,

The Central Division of the Modern Language Association prints at the hed of its program for its annual meeting at Indianapolis, Dec. 26, 27, 28, 1912, the following notis:

In compliance with a resolution adopted by the general Association at the union meeting, December 28, 1911, this program is printed in accordance with the rules and recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board in its Circular No. 23, except in the case of material submitted in different form.

In due time we may expect that the other filological associations and the other scientific associations which profess to state modern views in modern language, will present modern spellings of modern language.

Mr. E. H. Tuttle, New Haven, Connecticut, has printed a leaflet entitled "Our Spelling" (1912). It criticizes the various proposals and compromizes of spelling reformers in regard to the notation of the long vowels and the difthongs.

"Bogus and his Crew" is the title of a paper by Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, printed in the *Transactions* of the American Philological Association for 1911 (publisht October, 1912). It gives, for the first time, the etymology of *bogus*, *bogie*, *bogy*, and *buggy*. In the *Proceedings*, bound with the *Transactions*, he has an other paper entitled "The Doctrin of Diacritics." He suggests that the matter of diacritics, in sted of being disposed of off-hand, should be considerd as an intellectual and typografic problem, with principles that can be ascertaind and stated, and a practis that can be carried out under the control of the editor and printer, according to the subject and the purpose. Both papers are printed in simplified spelling.

*Don't wait until you have mist one or two or three numbers of the BULLETIN, and then wonder why you fail to get it. Many subscriptions expire with this number. Many more will expire with the March number. Be forehanded and send ten cents NOW to renew your subscription for one year. We ask your attention to the BULLETIN because we want your attention to the cause.*

File

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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No. 4

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## NEW SIMPLIFICATIONS

In this March number of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN there is a change. We begin in this BULLETIN the systematic use of the additional simplifications in spelling lately recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board, and contained in the new Circular Number 26, and printed also in this BULLETIN (pp. 12-15).

In this BULLETIN (and in those that are to follow), we thus use, not only all the older forms, but all the new ones. And this is the result. The simplifications are applied in every case in which the words affected occur. In the limited vocabulary of a single number of the BULLETIN, many of the words recently simplified do not happen to occur; but all that do occur are printed in the simplified form. Now look at these pages. Are the changes many? Are they "radical"? Do they disguise the spelling? Is there any one who will admit that he can not read any paragraph in these pages, or that he has to pause long before he can state what the words in the simplified form mean?

Of course, there is no difficulty. No one who can read the conventional English spelling will have any difficulty in reading this, which is, indeed, still the conventional spelling, improved only in some classes of words, and containing still, in the majority of words, irregular spellings that await regulation. It is not essential to the merit of simplified spelling that it shall make no great change in the appearance of the printed page; but in so far as a great change in the appearance of the printed page can be called a fault, it is not correct to charge it against these pages.

In the forum of reason, of course, it is no fault in any spelling that it looks different from the ordinary spelling, if it be more correct and

more near to the truth. The desire of indolent minds for reform without change will for ever remain unsatisfied.

## PROGRESSIVE UNIVERSITIES

The Senate of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill., on the recommendation of the committee on educational policy, adopted (Dec. 16, 1912), "for use in University publications," two hundred and twenty-seven of the Three Hundred Words (Circular No. 15).

The seventy-three omitted words were the preterits ending in -t for -ed (*dropt, stopt, wisht*, etc.).

Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., has taken a similar step. On February 15, 1913, the University Council, on the recommendation of Dr. James T. Hatfield, Professor of the German language and literature in that University, and a member of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, "unanimously adopted, for use in the publications of Northwestern University, beginning July 1, 1913, a list of 213 words taken from Circular No. 15," the Three Hundred Words, of the Simplified Spelling Board.

The forms omitted were the preterits in -t, and *antipyrin, bur, pur, egis, sithe, sulfur* (and *sulfate*), *tho, thoro, thru* and their compounds.

These concessions, in the case of each of the two universities, were probably made in deference to a minority which can not resist the principle, but is still reluctant to make observable changes. But the main point is gained. The official councils of these two universities have approved the proposal to simplify the spelling of the English language, and have given their official sanction to a considerable number of simplified spellings, which are to be used in their respective publications, and thus put to the test of experiment. Of the result of that test, who has any doubt?

## PITMAN CENTENARY IN NEW YORK

Sir Isaac Pitman, the inventor of the form of shorthand known as fonografy, and the advocate for fifty years of a reformd spelling of the English language by means of an enlarged (by him) English alfabet, to which, in its printed form, he gave the name of fonotypy, was born January 4, 1813. In Great Britain there wer many celebrations of the centenary of his birth. A celebration was held by the Allied Shorthand Associations of New York City, January 3 and 4, 1913. In this celebration the Simplified Spelling Board cooperated, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott and Mr. Henry Gallup Paine being the delegates.

There was a public meeting in the hall of the Harlem Young Men's Christian Association, No. 5 West 125th street, New York, Friday evening, January 3. Addresses wer made by Mr. George R. Bishop, for many years chief stenografer of the New York Stock Exchange; and by Professor Calvin Thomas, the chairman of the Executiv Committee of the Simplified Spelling Board, who spoke of simplified spelling as the logical outcome of the efforts of educators and reformers to make the English language subservient to the requirements of its users. Mr. Robert A. Kells, the associate editor of *Pitman's Journal*, New York, then gave a lecture on "The Life and Work of Sir Isaac Pitman," illustrated with lantern slides.

At the public dinner, which was held at Cavanagh's restaurant, No. 258 West 23d street, Saturday evening, January 4, speeches wer made by Mr. Thomas McBride of Philadelphia, Mr. Oliver McEwan, and other representatives of the Shorthand Associations, and by Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, who spoke both as a user of fonografy and as a representativ of the Simplified Spelling Board. The presiding offiser was Mr. Edward J. McNamara; the toastmaster was Mr. David H. O'Keefe. The orations wer reliev'd from time to time by the Cathedral Quartet, which rendered selections from popular music.

The bil of fare was speld in an orthografy rich beyond the dreams of simplicity. It was accompanied by a four-page leaflet, entitled "Life and its Ways: Opinions and Filosofies of Isaac Pitman and of other Reformers," containing quotations from Isaac Pitman's works and speeches, from Benn Pitman's biografy of his brother, "Sir Isaac Pitman, his Life and Labors" (1913), from Alfred Baker's "Life of Sir Isaac Pitman" (1908), and from Isaac Watts, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and other liberal givers of good advice.

An other feature of the celebration was an exhibit of shorthand and of simplified spelling publications in the main hall of the New York Public Library. The exhibition was open for two weeks, and was seen by a large number of persons. Owing to the limited space offerd, the time was divided between the Allied Shorthand Associations and the Simplified Spelling Board, each taking all the space for one week. While it was impossible under the circumstances to present a complete or systematic exhibit of the literature of spelling reform, enuf was shown to stimulate the interest of visitors to the Library, and to convince them that the subject was one that had engaged the serius attention of scolars to a larger extent than many of them doutless suspected. It is hoped that this preliminary exhibit may lead to the display of a noteworthy collection at a later time.

We suggest that some of our readers propose and carry out an exhibit in their local library. The Board can furnish some of the material.

An other interesting meeting in honor of Sir Isaac Pitman, in which the Simplified Spelling Board was represented, took place Tuesday evening, February 18, at the East Side Evening High Scool for Men, in Rivington Street, New York. Four hundred and sixty yung men, members of the second and third year classes in stenografy in the High Scool, wer in attendance and listend to addresses by Principal I. Edwin Goldwasser, Mr. Conrad J. Saphier, hed of the department of stenografy; Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, secretary of the Simplified Spelling Board; and Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, editor of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN. Mr. Nathan Behrin, who holds the world's speed record in stenografy, also spoke, and gave a blackboard demonstration of his skil. The evening was enlivend with music, and the entertainment concluded with Mr. Kells's lecture on the life and work of Pitman.

## GOT "THRU"

From a certain college which is situated a number of miles west-northwest from a point not here given, comes this little anecdote:

"Our Professor ———, an economist, and a person of most judicious turn of mind, tho not by any means an ardent simplifier, was approacht by one of our faculty—a woman, and a simpleton in the matter of linguistics (she is in the English department!)—and askt: 'What would you do if a pupil wrote *thru* and *enuf*, etc., in an examina-

tion paper?' And the Professor answered: 'I'd look to see if the student knew anything about economics!'"

But this rule would work havoc. If teachers must consider the amount of knowledge and ability that a student's examination paper may show, and may not condemn it all at the first sight of an unconventional spelling, they will have to mark their students according to their substantial attainments, and not according to accidents of pen and ink. Of course, if the teacher should regard the use, by a student, of modern spellings like *thru* and *enuf* in examination papers, as indications of an open and courageous mind, or of a modern spirit, he would be cutting loose from the spelling-book, and would soon be drifting toward the desolate shores of reason and common sense, far from friends and home.

### A MEETING IN BROOKLYN

A meeting in the interest of the movement for a simpler English orthography was held in Brooklyn at Adelphi College, Tuesday evening, February 25, 1912.

Professor A. Latham Baker, of the Manual Training High School (formerly a colleague of Professor March, in Lafayette College), presided, and Mr. L. Leland Locke acted as secretary. Addresses were made by the chairman, by Professor Joseph Bowden, of Adelphi College, by Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, editor of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, and by Mr. S. W. Simpson. Among those who took active part in the proceedings and debates were Mr. Charles H. Carrington, Dr. William H. Hale, Mr. Josefus C. Lipes, and Mr. George A. Taber. Others present were Professor A. G. Fradenburgh of Adelphi College, Miss Elizabeth H. Lenteritz, Mr. Charles Minoff, Mr. Oliver C. Mordorf, Mr. Ferdinand Nestlen, Miss Maude Rollins Osborne, Mr. E. Reichardt, Miss Harriet Rose, Mr. Kenneth Rose, Mrs. S. W. Simpson, and Mr. Edward F. Stevens of Pratt Institute Free Library.

It was resolved to organize a society to forward the cause of simplified spelling in cooperation with the Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council; and a committee was appointed to report a form of organization.

The committee on organization is as follows: Prof. Joseph Bowden, chairman, Prof. A. Latham Baker, Mr. Charles H. Carrington, Prof. A. G. Fradenburgh, Dr. William H. Hale, Mr. L. Leland Locke, Mr. Oliver C. Mordorf, Miss

Maude Rollins Osborne, Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, Prof. Charles A. Reining of Adelphi College, Mr. S. W. Simpson, Mr. Edward F. Stevens, Mr. George A. Taber.

### "SPELD DOWN" HIS FATHER

This true story comes from Reed College, in Portland, Oregon—the most modern college, with the most modern ideas, established west of the Mississippi River. If there are any colleges east of the Mississippi that are not totally modern, we decline to betray the fact.

A boy in a Portland school was having difficulties with his spelling—that is, he was learning to spell. His father was trying to help him. The boy came home one night, and told his father that he would like to have him spell some words that he would give him. The father obediently took his pen, and sat down quickly. The son gave him twenty-six words to spell. The father silently did his best, and then handed his spellings to his son. The son looked them over, and then gleefully pronounced them all incorrect—according to the Reed College Catalog! The son was up to date. The father was behind the age. The father himself told the story at the close of one of President Foster's dinner speeches in Portland.

Of course, the same thing has occurred, under other circumstances, in times gone by. Many a smart boy has persuaded his father to spell words for him, and has then pronounced the paternal spellings "incorrect"—according to Spifkins's "Speller," or Dabbler's "Dictionary," or some other printed thing that happened to be regarded as authority at the time. And the like is done today in spelling bees and school examinations. "The dictionary"—that is, a set of stereotype plates owned by Messrs. Hardware & Drygoods—is the final "authority."

The Reed College Catalog is an authority, because it represents, to the extent to which it has now gone, the recommendations of the leading scholars of the English language, and the leading educators of the English-speaking world.

### A NEWSPAPER'S TESTIMONY

"There is not a single eminent English scholar on either side of the Atlantic or at the Antipodes who is not on historical as well as phonological grounds an advocate of a more correctly as well as more usefully spelt English language."—Toronto (Ont.) *Globe*, Oct. 11, 1912.

## SPELLING BEES

The zeal for spelling bees, which we have before noticed, seems to increase. Following a number of spelling bees in Missouri there is to be "a state spelling bee," or, as one headline puts it, "a state bee," some time in May.—St. Joseph (Mo.) *Gazette*, Jan. 5.

"Mrs. Josephine Corliss Preston, of Walla Walla, Wash., was elected state superintendent of schools over three men and a woman. . . . One of her policies will be to revive the old-fashioned spelling bee. She says that one of the things the children of the state need to learn is to spell."—St. Louis (Mo.) *Globe-Democrat*, Jan. 26.

Early in March "all of the champion spellers of Delaware county, whether of the rising generation, or the generation that has already risen," are "required to take notice" of a spelling bee in Muncie, Indiana. "A general invitation has been extended to the public, to come and be spelled down."—Muncie (Ind.) *Press*, Mar. 6.

County spelling contests were held in Nevada, Mo., March 1, in preparation for the "State spelling contest." "Although the weather was very inclement, and the country roads bad," they came, they spelled, and most of them were conquered.—Nevada (Mo.) *Mail*, March 6.

The Minneapolis (Minn.) *Tribune*, of March 5, says: "Minnesota is threatened with an epidemic of spelling bees. . . . Mr. C. G. Schulz, state superintendent of public instruction, indorses the project. 'Good spellers are all too rare,' he said, 'while the need of good spelling is constant. I believe in the spelling bee. It developed good spellers in the past and is doing so now wherever it has a hold.' . . . Dean Woods of the college of agriculture said the idea looked so good to him that he believed the state fair board would take it up gladly"; and he holds forth this prospect for the children who have been looking forward to a happy summer: "Such an interest could be worked up over this state contest throughout Minnesota in the rest of the regular school season that all through the summer the children would be poring over spellers and dictionaries with the same zeal they employ in hunting birds' nests, snaring gophers, or making fire by friction."

And yet they would call this 'vacation'! Children, come with us, and we will let you

snare 'gofers' in stead of encouraging teachers to snare you in spelling.

The Ft. Dodge (Ia.) *Chronicle*, Jan. 2, quotes the state superintendent of schools of Iowa, Mr. A. M. Deyoe, thus: "There is perhaps no state in the union where more has been done to improve the spelling ability of the young people than in Iowa." Mr. Deyoe goes on to tell how the children are "drilled" (he does not say, how the teachers drudge) in this effort. Let it be recorded also that there is no state in which simplified spelling is more popular than in Iowa.

In Altoona, Pa., a spelling bee had to be postponed, because, according to Principal W. W. Osborne, the "Jefferson building" was too small for the "Giant Meet," meaning the immense assemblage of would-be competitors.—Altoona (Pa.) *Tribune*, Jan. 30.

Spelling bees of village, town, county and state, are mentioned in the St. Louis (Mo.) *Globe-Democrat*, Jan. 3; Ottumwa (Ia.) *Courier*, Jan. 27; Maryville (Mo.) *Democrat-Forum*, Feb. 28; St. Joseph (Mo.) *News-Press*, March 1; Ottawa (Kan.) *Herald*, March 3; Davenport (Ia.) *Leader*, March 6; and many other papers.

## THE "ORDINARY" MAN'S MINIMUM

The Russell Sage Foundation, Division of Education, has published (Feb. 1913), under the title "The Spelling Vocabularies of Personal and Business Letters," a pamphlet of sixteen pages, compiled by Dr. Leonard P. Ayres; price 5 cents.

Selections from the words in 2,000 personal and business letters were tabulated. Counting repetitions, there were 23,629 words. "The total number of individual words was found to be 2,001." Of these, 542 words constitute seven-eighths of the whole.

The ten most frequent words were *I, the, and, you, to, your, of, for, in, dear*. *I* occurred 1,080 times; *dear* occurred 380 times.

The first ten words among 59 that occurred six times were *always, among, begin, busy, chain, committee, convenience, develop, direct, effort*.

Setting aside the special epistolary words, *dear, committee, convenience*, etc., these results agree closely with similar investigations, some of which were mentioned in the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN (June and September, 1910).

The pamphlet draws no conclusions except the well-known fact that the words used by ordinary persons in letters are only a few hundred in num-

ber. The compiler intimates that spelling-books need revision. "What we must know is rather which are the words that ordinary people need to know how to spell" (p. 10). But is spelling to stop there? When ordinary people learn how to spel the few hundred words *they* ordinarily use, wil they then kno how to spel the words of the English language? Is the ordinary man's minimum of common thought and expression to be the maximum of educational effort? To our mind, education means giving the student *more* than he has alredy — more thoughts, more words, more variety, more aspiration, more knoledge.

## NIPT

Simplified spellings often crop up in newspapers ownd by men who think that they ar opposed to simplification. This means that some of the editors, reporters, and contributors ar using simplified spelling, more or less, and that some of the compositors or proof-readers ar lacking in vigilance, or ar in secret sympathy with improvement. Sometimes the simplification is confined to a hedline, where the compositor finds that shorter spellings allow him to set up the words within the limits, or to space the line with better taste. In the folloing paragraf from the *Buffalo Express*, as quoted in the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (Jan., 1913), there was plenty of space for the longer spelling, but the judgment of the compositor, or his instinct for neatness, made him prefer the better form:

### Mania Nipt at the Tank

Gasoline costs 60 cents a gallon in Guatemala. There can't be much need for speed laws in that country.

## ESSAYS ON SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

The Simplified Spelling Society, last summer, offerd some prizes for the best essays on "the educational advantages of simplified spelling." The awards ar publisht in the January number of the *Pioneer*, p. 8. The competitors wer divided into three classes:

Class 1. Teachers in scools—men. Nineteen competitors. The prize of fifteen guineas was awarded to Mr. L. Leadley, 21 Feversham Crescent, York. The prize of five guineas was awarded to Mr. F. A. Cavenagh, King Edward VII School, Lytham.

Class 2. Teachers in scools—women. Five competitors. The prize of fifteen guineas was awarded to Miss Susan M. Phillips, Metuchen,

New Jersey. Miss Phillips was for some years the editorial assistant of the late Dr. C. W. Larison, editor of the *Jurnal of Orthoepy and Orthograpy*.

Class 3. Non-Teachers. Twenty competitors. The prize of fifteen guineas was awarded to Miss Hilda Wilson, 318 28th street West, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The prize of five guineas went to Mr. F. L. Sargent, 27 Everett st., Cambridge, Mass.

The essays of many competitors ar mentiond as "worthy of special commendation."

It will be notist that three out of the five prizes came to Americans. One in New Jersey, one in Massachusetts, and one in Saskatchewan, which for this purpose we hereby annex to the United States.

Our American readers wil appreciate our delicacy in not announcing this competition in previus numbers of the BULLETIN, lest they should rush forward and take all the prizes.

## "SCRAPPING" FAULTY SPELLING

The *Pioneer ov Simplified Speling*, February, 1913, prints some quotations from the essays offerd in the recent prize competition. We quote these two paragrafs:

Whot iz it we want from the luum? Iz it' not cloth? And duu we sai, when sum clever brain sujesta an aulter-aishon in the masheen which graitli fasilitait the produ-shon ov cloth, "Aa! we must not alou this tincering with the luum, els we mai suun not be aibl tu recogniez the orijinal masheen"? This iz not the attitud ov the world tu theez materz, at eni rate; no wun dreemz ov demuring; invenshon, impruuvment iz aloud, welcumd, and eegerli saut aafter in everi braanch ov the comurshal wurd; hens the arts and siensez which controel this wurd ar an ever-groing cwortiti, but the *Ars scribendi* remainz like the unsiviliezd savij: in an ever-recurring perpetuyal saimnea. — OLIVE E. BADGER, Minehead.

Duz a biznes man retain oeld masheeneri for senti-mental reezons? He ceeps the wurcing ov hiz masheenz under constanz syupervizhon; impruuvments ar peeriodic; oeld masheenz ar scrapt az suun az mor efisient aijents ar prodyust. The oeldest steem enjin iz the veriest infant compaird with our alfabet; yet tudai, whiel the steem enjin haz been modified beyond recognishon — tu our infinit gain — we ar stil yuzing the cumbrus and faulti masheeneri ov the sentyuriz for our riten langwij, and drieving it harder, with aul its meeningles complicaishonz and acy-mylaited rust. Its creeking wheelz hav not eeven been oild. — FREDERICK H. BLAKE, London.

A shop in Philadelphia, selling goods at a "great reduction of prices," makes known the fact by this sign: "SLAUGHTER."

### AN S. S. DINNER IN INDIANAPOLIS

At the meeting of the Central Division of the Modern Language Association of America in Indianapolis, December 27-28, 1912, the subject of simplified spelling came to the front. The program was printed in simplified spelling "in compliance with a resolution adopted at the Union Meeting [of the M. L. A.] December 28, 1911."

Professor George H. Danton and Mrs. Danton, acting with the local committee, gave a dinner and reception. There were many guests. The bill of fare was written in various spellings and in many languages, the successive articles being distributed in a scientific manner among the following branches of language: "Tartaric, Turanian, Germanic, Patagonian, Servian, Malay, Lettish, Frisian, Algonquin, and Finnish." We suppress the details.

A report of the affair appears in the Indianapolis *Star*, December 28, 1912.

### THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN

The Simplified Spelling Society is sending out a return post-card, containing on one side this quotation:

**SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.**—"It is the generations of children to come who appeal to us to save them from the affliction which we have endured and forgotten. **WHITNEY.**"

The card contains two questions: "Have any of the following objections to a reform of the spelling occurred to you?" (Five objections specified.) "Have you realized the following advantages that would result from the adoption of a rational spelling?" (Four advantages specified.)

### STANDARDS IN CANADA

Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education of Nova Scotia, has an article in the February number of "The School," edited by members of the faculty of education of the University of Toronto. The article is entitled "Dominion School Tests." It favors the preparation, under proper scholarly guidance, of a series of standard Canadian text-books—a plan that has already been carried out in respect to texts on history and civics.

Dr. MacKay suggests that in the preparation of grammars there should be an attempt to use the common terminology of grammar as recommended by several committees of British and

American educators and philologists; and in elementary arithmetic, the extension of the "use of the simple, world-wide decimal system of weights and measures." He concludes:

This method would also operate to secure the progressive simplification and improvement of orthography uniformly in every province—a movement recommended in general terms as desirable and urgent by the representatives of the Education Departments of the British Empire, which met in quadrennial conference in 1911 in London. This imperial education policy was adopted unanimously after mature consideration, although the propaganda for the present is left to local initiative for the discovery of the most effective methods.

The policy of interprovincial co-operation in school books would tend to keep all the provinces abreast, and therefore facilitate mutual understanding, common action and general progress.

### WASTED SCHOOL DAYS

The *School Board and School Review Journal and Index of Education* (Toronto, Canada) contains, in the March number, volume 2, number 3, page 104, an article on the "Movement for the Regulation of the English Language." It begins:

The movement to simplify the spelling of the English language, which has received some recent comment, is at least worthy of consideration. In the past the majority of educators in Canada have looked askance at this reform as though it were unscholarly and unworthy of their attention—seeming to be timid lest some ingenious person, who through circumstances had been unable to obtain a college education, might be capable of transmitting his ideas and thoughts to paper without risking the taint of poor orthography.

The occasion seems to have arrived when we can no longer fail to grasp the importance of this movement in education. Let us just recall the time we wasted during our early school days in learning how to spell the most common of English words. To those of us who were fortunate enough to be able to continue our cultural development through college such a waste of time seems of little importance; but to the vast multitude of public school pupils, who are forced to start out upon the way of life with but the common school education, such wasted time is an irreparable loss. It is the welfare of the latter section of the community, the mass of the people, that it is our duty as educators to protect.

### "WHY PITMAN FAILED"

In the January number of the *Pioneer* there is an article by W. H. Thomson, entitled "Why Isaac Pitman Failed."

The point is that Mr. Pitman failed to establish his ideas of spelling reform, because he would not cooperate with other persons who desired the same end, but followed his own individual views, which changed as he went on with his individual

experiments. He never reacht, in his own mind, a scientific basis. Even scholars who, like Ellis, wer willing to sacrifice much for the general cause, found it impossible to work with him. We quote two paragraphs:

With no wun left to moderait hiz zeel, Pitman rezyumd charj and set tu wure in urnest. Meni of the leterz wer chainjd in shaip, thair number woz redyust from forti tu thurti-tu, then increest tu thurti-for, then tu thurti-seven; the funcshonz ov sum leterz wer inter-chainjd, thai wer increest tu thurti-nien, thai wer redyust tu thurti-ait, and fienali, in 1879, tu thurti-sica. Then it woz discoverd that twenti-thre wer enuf; but wun or tu wer ocaizhonali aded tu this toetal, oenli to be remuuvd again laiter.

In vain did Ellis and uthertz beg him tu pauz and giv the reform tiem tu consolidait. He woz inegzorabl. Truth, as he sau it at the moement, must be persyud at aul cost; hiz panting disieplz wer hoeplesli outdistanst and never nyu which wai thair leeder wood hed necst. Scuul-maasterz, who with the graitest eez and suces had taut the yung to reed from hiz boocs, found; when fresh wunz wer needed, that the nyu cood not be yuzd with the oeld. Just as the aij of a roc can be dedyust from the fosilz found thairin, so can eni pasij in ful fonotipi be daited from inturnal evidens oenli.

### NO RELIEF

The *San Francisco Bulletin*, September 30, 1912, referring to the efforts of our English brethren, says, in a black and forbidding hedline:

**Simplified Spellers Offer No Relief to the Multitude.**

But the multitude offers no relief to the simplified spellers. They ar obliged to appeal to the educated and the intelligent; and their work for the millions is appreciated only by a few hundred thousands. The multitude, and the newspapers which reflect the learning of the multitude, can not desire any relief until they realize their unhappy condition.

### SPANISH REGULATED

We hav receivd a copy of a thesis, "*Del Juramento, Memoria de prueba para optar al grado de Lizenziado en la Fakultad de Leyes i Zienzias Politikas de la Unibersidad de Chile*," by Manfredo Blumer i Salzedo.

This university thesis is printed, as the title indicates, in a simplified form of Spanish orthografy. It is publisht at "Killota" (Quillota) in Chile, by "Franzisko Enrrikez," 1912.

The University of Chile, it appears, permits candidates for a degree to spel in a modernized way. This can also be said of some universities in the United States.

### A LESSON TO TEACHERS

The St. Louis (Mo.) *Globe-Democrat*, Jan. 28, 1913, has this report:

Nearly all the 200 children who participated in the first county spelling match of Madison County misspelled the word "technicalities," according to a statement made yesterday at Edwardsville by County Superintendent of Schools J. U. Uzzell. The average grade was 85 per cent.

We hope that of the 200 and 20,000,000 children who ar askt to spell "technicalities," all wil respectfully misspel it, so as to teach their teachers 'some sense' as to the kinds of words and spellings they ought, as rational beings, to offer the children whom they undertake to instruct.

### ONE HUNDRED SPECIMEN WORDS

This List of One Hundred Specimen Words in Simplified Spelling has been printed by the Simplified Spelling Board (March 24, 1913), on a large page, for the use of those persons who wish to hav at hand a short list of typical simplified forms.

activ	discust	honor	shipt
addrest	dout	iland	slipt
alfabet	draft	imagin	spred
altho	dred	imprest	stedfast
anser	drest	insted	stopt
ar	dropt	kild	sulfur
askt	dum	leag	surprize
bild	endorst	liv	taxt
bilding	engin	medicin	telefone
bredth	enuf	medieval	telegraf
brekfast	examin	nativ	theater
brest	exprest	notis	tho
campaign	fantom	offis	thoro
catalog	favorit	orderd	thred
center	fixt	paragraf	thru
cifer	fonograf	plow	til
clipt	fotograf	practis	tred
confest	fulfil	program	tuch
crost	gard	relativ	tuf
crusht	gardian	resolv	tung
curv	giv	rime	washt
ded	hav	ruf	wel
definit	hed	serv	welth
deserv	helpt	servis	wil
det	helth	shal	yung

Copies of this list of One Hundred Specimen Words may be had on application.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary and Treasurer; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Calvin Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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(Signed) HENRY GALLUP PAINE, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of March, 1913.

(Signed) CHARLOTTE A. VAN BAUNT,  
Notary Public, King's County. Certificate filed in New York County.  
My commission expires March 26, 1914.

SEAL

## ADVICE GRATIS

In letters and articles on the movement for the regulation of English spelling, written by persons who do not care to be recognized as advocates of the principle, there is a good deal of advice given to a supposed group of men, supposed to be all alike, and called "the reformers." The advice is usually given in a somewhat superior tone, and with the implication that "the reformers" are well-meaning persons who need the advice of the superior persons who take no part in the movement. "The reformers" are told that "they must not expect English spelling to be reformed all at once." That it must be "gradual"; that "practical considerations" should prevail over the theories of "doctrinaires."

And so on. But do these advisers ever think that their advice may be the advice of the inexperienced? Have they learned what to advise by trying what to do?

Is it not possible that the leaders of "the reformers" may understand the case? Is it not possible that the men who have studied the subject in all its phases; who are familiar with the spellings and notations of various languages; who have conducted the departments of English, or French, or German, or Latin, or Greek, or litera-

ture, or chemistry, or physics, in great universities for a good many years; who have lectured before university, college, and institute; who have written many books and conducted them through the processes of composition, revision, proof-reading, publication, second edition, third edition; who have, as officers or as members of governing committees of filological, scientific, literary and other associations, acquired some experience in matters of spelling and printing; who know the other leaders of their different sciences; who have edited scientific and filological periodicals; who have edited magazines and newspapers; who have taken part in political campaigns; who have, in short, pursued successful careers in life, meeting and dealing with thousands of men in all sorts of ways—is it not possible that these men may be "practical?" Or are only those men "practical" who know little and do nothing?

## SPELLING AND DOUGHNUTS

The Mobile (Ala.) *Item* (Nov. 24) reprints from "a recent issue of the *Christian*," instructions for "holding an old-fashioned spelling bee."

Each guest on arriving is presented with a small bean bag, either red or green, which he or she keeps until later in the evening, when, after much mysterious guessing as to what the bean bags are for, the guests are asked to form into two lines, the "Red Bags" and the "Green Bags," for a spelling bee. A captain is chosen to give out the words, which should not be over three or four letters, but they must be spelled over backward and very promptly, which is not so easy. For every mistake the speller must pay a forfeit, and redeeming of forfeits is one of the best parts of the bee. Doughnuts, taffy, lollypops, apple cake, popcorn balls, bars of roasted chestnuts, slices of pumpkin or mince pie, coffee in tin cups with treacle sweetening and coffee-cake are appropriate refreshments for a country spelling bee.

It is a good notion to spell words backward. It shows an acute perception of the real conditions of English spelling. Many spellings are just as intelligible backward as they are forward. And mentioning all the letters backward is just as intelligent as mentioning them forward; and besides, the reward is greater. If you spell backward, you get "doughnuts, taffy, lollypops, apple-cake, popcorn balls, bars of roasted chestnuts, slices of pumpkin or mince pie, coffee in tin cups with treacle sweetening and coffee-cake." If you spell forward you do not get forward, and you get no doughnuts, no taffy, no cake, no pie.

But the remedy is easy. Let principals and superintendents of schools who are distressed over the "lost art of spelling" and are anxious to revive the drudgery in all its ancient horrors, require their teachers to hand out, at the end of every spel-

ling lesson, "doughnuts, taffy, lollypops, apple-cake, popcorn balls, bars of roasted chestnuts, slices of pumpkin or mince pie, coffee in tin cups with treacle sweetening and coffee-cake." The pupils will do the rest.

## NEW DEPARTURES

The month of March, 1913, will be memorable, either for ever or for a time, as a month in which two new departures occurred. A new administration of the government of the United States entered into power, and an advanced list of simplifications of the English spelling was published by the party of Simplification.

The political party entered the gates of power through precepts and promises. The Simplification party comes only to the gates, and only with precept and recommendation. And there are other differences.

The Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council have put forth these recommendations with the knowledge that they are acceptable to a large and influential group of educators and men of influence, and that they are for the most part open to no question, either as to convenience of form, or as to permanence of use. Out of the many thousand signers who favor these forms, there are many who have been using them as a matter of routine. And as they have been using for many years spellings like *catalog*, *program*, *medieval*, in the regular course, as they spell *cat* and *dog*, *past* and *present*, *rise* and *fall*, so from this year forth they will be using spellings like *narl*, *naw*, *nob*, *nock*, *rong*, *filosofy*, *epitaf*, *ruf*, *tuf*, *cof*, *trof*, and the other simplifications contained in the list just published—new now, odd for some weeks, then common, and at length a matter of routine.

## PREXY AND EX-PREXY

We have received a report like this: "The editor of our university publications would use simplified spelling if ex-President X were not so violently opposed."

Here is an added difficulty. If "Prexy" is violently opposed, progress must wait until he dies or resigns. The professors count for nothing. When a new idea is proposed, they must wait to see what the president thinks of it. The judgment of the powers that be (meaning the power that is), especially when it is "violently opposed," is always sound—even when it is fury.

The administration is one man. The other forty, or ninety, or two hundred men in the faculty must wait till he becomes enlightened. So long as he remains unenlightened, he is "violently opposed,"

But President X resigns, and then he is "ex-President X." He remains on the ground, and is still "violently opposed." Knowledge does not come, and wisdom does not linger—only the ex-president lingers.

Could not the authorities send ex-President X on a tour around the world—the longest way round—and let his successor propound and practice some ideas of his own?

## UNSPLENDID ISOLATION

Why should inventors be so lonesome? Why should reformers prefer to lodge in some vast wilderness? Why should their minds be in a boundless contiguity of shade? Why should they dwell in unsplendid isolation?

It is very well to be "a voice crying in the wilderness"; but if no human beings come to the wilderness to listen, what is the use of crying there? Wisdom crieth in the streets, even though no man regardeth her for a time.

There are many persons who devise, or "invent," as they often call it, new alphabets, or new schemes of altering the Roman alphabet. The thing has been done over and over again by isolated reformers, from the 16th century down to the present day. Such reformers abounded in the 19th century—enough to fill a large portion of the wilderness, if they had come to the same place. There are many such reformers or inventors now. We may call them inventors, though they do not really invent much. We may call them reformers, though they do not reform anybody. Whatever the merits of their schemes, they themselves fail in one thing—they get no following.

All persons interested in the simplification of English spelling, or in fonetic spelling, or in shorthand, or in universal languages, or in any other scheme of change or improvement, receive letters or circulars from these industrious inventors. Sometimes, the letter is accompanied by a request that the recipient will subscribe to the printing of the scheme, or will persuade some one else to contribute \$1000, or \$100,000, or \$1,000,000, to print the scheme, and thus, as the inventor thinks, to assure its success.

Far be it from us to discourage any sincere effort to improve anything. We would not

check any sincere and honest effort toward wisdom for oneself or for the world. But it is not enuf to mean wel. It is not enuf to hav a good idea. He who seeks to reform the world or any part of it, must do more. He must produce an idea or a scheme that will commend itself, when known and considerd, to other minds. No reformer can expect to reach the world until he first reaches his own circle. Let him find two or three men in his own community, five or ten in his own state, or in his own profession, who wil look into his plan and assure him and others that the plan has some merit and ought to be more widely known.

If a man who has a good idea or a good plan, can not in a year, or five years, or ten years, gain a sufficient hearing and a sufficient support even to print his plan and to circulate it among a few hundred or a few thousand persons, he ought to retire from the reform business. Either his idea is rong, or he lacks the ability to present it, or he does not fully understand the subject. On this last hard rock many privateers of reform hav split.

### DR. BENJAMIN E. SMITH

Once more the Simplified Spelling Board has sufferd a great loss in the deth of one of its members. Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, the managing editor of the "Century Dictionary," died, after a lingering illness, on Tuesday, February 25, 1913, at his home in New Rochelle, N. Y. One of the group of men who organized the Simplified Spelling Board, and a member, from the beginning, of the Executiv Committee, he took an activ part in all the plans and proposals of the Board and the Committee, and did his ful share in the drafting of papers and the guidance of policy. All this he did with the clearness of mind, with the soundness of judgment, and with the modesty and sincerity of spirit, that wer characteristic of the man. A student and a preceptor in filosofy, an energetic and scolarly editor, an intellectual man of business, the associate of men of letters and science, his powers wer even greater than his achievements, and his achievements wer much greater than the recognition which they obtaind. Few men wer more indifferent to public notis. He never used the arts of publicity, but left his work to speak for him.

As the managing editor of the "Century Dictionary," under Professor Whitney as editor in chief, he organized and conducted that work with

remarkable energy and judgment, always having the cordial cooperation and approval of the company of contributing scolars, most of them his elders, whose work he had to estimate, apportion and unify. It would hav been great to do that wel; he did it very wel indeed, and very honestly. Never was a great cooperativ work done with more sincerity of intent and more honesty of performance. The "Century Dictionary", with the "Century Cyclopedia," wil remain a fit and lasting monument of Dr. Smith's ability and caracter.

But Dr. Smith did not sink the man in the scolar, or bury himself in literature, to the neglect of public servis. He servd for a time as a trustee of the public scools of New Rochelle, and rote many articles shoing his interest and his ability in the discussion of matters of public concern. His work as a member of the Executiv Committee was in itself a great contribution to the public welfare, none the les valuable that it was not widely recognized.

Dr. Smith died in the prime of manhood, while he had before him the prospect of many years of public servis, in the maturity of his powers and experience, and with the assurance of public recognition, the wel-earnd increment of good work and high endeavor.

Of the los to the members of the Executiv Committee, with whom he was associated in the ties of personal frendship, we can not here speak.

### ORLANDO C. BLACKMER

Orlando C. Blackmer, a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, died suddenly in Oak Park, Ill., January 5, as he reacht home from attending Church. It happend that, under a kind of inspiration, Mr. Blackmer at the Sunday School askt permission to make a few remarks. He spoke of the starry heavens, and their lesson to mankind. His words deeply imprest his hearers, and wer taken down shortly after.

A few minutes later, as he was about to enter his home, Mr. Blackmer suddenly expired. He was 85 years and 5 days old.

An appreciation of his life and character is containd in Dr. Barton's address at the funeral, which is printed in *Oak Leaves* (Jan. 11, 1913).

As a member of the Board, Mr. Blackmer was faithful to his duties, considerate, kindly and tolerant; he had the esteem and regard of his colleags; and his presence at the meetings of the Board was always welcome. Mr. Blackmer was interested in the movement for the simplification

of English spelling from his youth. His name, as that of a member of the "Christian Phonetic Correspondence Association" is printed in the *American Phonetic Journal* for May, 1857, page 94. His address then was Rockford, Illinois. He was of New England birth.

Mr. Blackmer's special work for many years was in the line of extending the use of fonetic spelling as a means of introducing children and foreners to a knoledge of English spelling. He used the fonetic notation recommended by the American Filological Association, and adopted by the Spelling Reform Association in 1877. His long labors ar over; and he leaves the record of a good and useful life.

### SIMPLIFICATION BY TELEFONE

The New York Telephone Company has proposed, and has lately put into practis, a simplification of spelling in its "Telephone Directory" for New York City. It prints the names of the subscribers in three colums. Each colum has four divisions, the subscriber's name, his residence, the name of the station, and the number of the telephone. The names of the station and the numbers of the telephone ar printed in gothic type. In this type the dotted *i* is likely to be confused with *l*; and what does the New York Telephone Company do but propose, and execute, a spelling reform, by omitting the dot over the *i*, thus:

Franklin, Spring, Riverside.

The Company does not stop here. Some of the names of the stations ar too long for the colum in which they must appear, so the names ar reduced, thus:

Murry Hil, Gramrcy, Morngsde, Mad Sq.

These things ar done for a special purpose, within understood limits. There has been no public protest. The most bitter opponents of simplified spelling use the "Telephone Directory" without scruple. They recognize and accept the changed forms, the undotted *i*, and the reduced words, without difficulty.

And yet some of the same persons, seeing the reduced spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board, spellings in which nothing essential is omitted, in which the reductions ar made by scholars with the most careful precision, profess to be unable to understand these simplified forms, say that they can not read them, and declare the whole thing unintelligible. Can it be that these persons, who

ar intelligent enuf when they read the "Telephone Directory," become unintelligent when they read something which is much easier, and more regular, but which they don't like? Do they see when they wish to see, and become blind and def and dum only when reason heaves in sight?

### MODERN SPELLING IN THE M. L. A.

The Modern Language Association of America met at Philadelphia, December 27-29, 1912. The program, which had been sent out previously, was printed, in accordance with a resolution of the association, in a visible simplified spelling. The simplified spelling, being visible, struck the attention of the newspaper men, who therefore notist the association more widely and more fully than they hitherto hav done; and they used hedlines that "featured" simplified spelling rather than the profound and remote subjects of the papers announst in the program. Thus:

#### SIMPLIFIED SPELLING WILL BE RECOGNIZED

Embodied in Program of Language Association

#### FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

#### FAVOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

Modern Language Body Favors Simplified Spelling

#### SIMPLIFIED SPELLING RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Simplified Spelling is Recognized by Linguists

Here is a lesson for the scholars who favor a reform of spelling. What the leaders of the Modern Language Association thought good to recommend, they thought good to adopt; and to adopt, not merely in the retired orthograpy of their private letters, but in the publications that they control, namely, the program and the *Proceedings* of the association. And they did not confine their innovations to innovatons that hav become trite and popular, such as *program*, *catalog*, *medieval*, and the like. They used innovations that innovate, new forms that look new; and then, even the newspaper men could see them. They did see them, they wer interested, they wer pleased, and they exprest their delite in their hedlines.

There ar many reformers of English spelling, some of them members of the reformatory societies, whose reforms ar so retiring that they never get into any hedlines—or even into footnotes.

## FOURTH LIST OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLINGS

The Simplified Spelling Board, with the approval of its Advisory Council, publisht, March 24, 1913 (Circular No. 26), some Additional Simplifications of spelling, constituting a Fourth List in the series of successiv proposals.

This Fourth List, with the Introduction, is here condensd from the Circular named. Most of the comments, and many of the examples under the rules ar omitted. The Circular may be had free on request.

The First List (the Three Hundred Words), publisht in 1906 (Circular No. 15), was not a list of newly simplified forms, but a selection of simpler forms alredy in good use—namely, in three hundred out of more than three thousand words at that time commonly speld in two or more ways.

The Second List, publisht in 1908 (Circular No. 18), containd a considerable number of simplified spellings that might be cald 'innovations.' But the simplified forms it containd wer strictly in accord with the existing rules and analogies of English spelling, and wer for the most part restorations of simplifications formerly in high literary use.

The wide acceptance of the Three Hundred Words and of the Second List, made it desirable to publish a more extensiv list, including classes of words in which regulation was much demanded and could not be postponed. Accordingly, the Board publisht the Third List, January 25, 1909 (Circular No. 22). The three lists wer then put together in one Alfabetic List, and publisht March 6, 1909 (Circular No. 23).

After publishing the Third List, the Board thought it would be wel to withhold further recommendations until the practis of simplified spelling should spred more widely, and until the agitation in Great Britain and Canada should gain strength.

But the time came to publish a Fourth List of simplifications, which removes many minor irregularities and thus clears the ground for the work that remains to be done.

It wil be seen that some of these proposals, like previus proposals, involv a simplification of only a part of a word, as of a suffix at the end of many hundred words which may contain in the middle varius irrational digrafts or anomalous combinations of letters that can not, in the present state of opinion, be alterd with any prospect of success.

If no rule is found referring to a particular clas of words, it wil be understood that words of this clas hav been included in the rules of simplification heretofore adopted by the Board, and ar enterd in the combined Alfabetic List (March, 1909), or else hav not yet been simplified. The classes not yet acted upon constitute the problems of the future. But in the mean time certain undouted simplifications which do not fall under the general rules, but which hav been approved by the Board in the course of discussion, may be used without hesitation. Such ar: Anser, frend, morgage, yoman, for *answer, friend, mortgage, yeoman*.

The rules ar arranged in the alfabetic order of the letter or letters affected.

## ADDITIONAL RULES FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

- 1 **ch** pronounst **c** (chiefly in words of Greek origin). Ex. *Chameleon, chaos, character, chasm, chloride, chlorine, cholera, chord, chorus, chromatic, chrome, archaic, echo*, etc. RULE: Drop **h**. Ex. *Cameleon, caos, caracter, casm, clorid, clorin, colera, cord* (in music), *corus, cromatic, crome, cromo, cronic, cronicle, cronology, arcaic, arcangel, conc, distic, eco, epoc, mecanic, melancoly, monarc, monocrome, scolar, scolastic, scool, stomach, tecnic, tecnology, trocaic*, etc.

But retain, for the present, *ch* before *e, i, and y*, where, by a conventional assumption, *c* suggests the sound of *s*. Ex. *Chemic, chirografy, alchemy, archeology, architect, catechism, monarchy, orchestra, scheme*, etc.

- 2 **-ck** pronounst **c**, after an unstrest vowel, in words of two or more syllables. Ex. *Bannock, barrack, bullock, cassock, charlock, derrick, haddock, hammock, hemlock, hillock, hummock, mattock, paddock, puttock, ruddock, tussock*, etc. RULE: Drop **k**, as our grandfathers did in most words of this class, namely, *alembick, almanack, antick, arithmetick, attick, catholick, comick, frolick, havock, mimick, musick, publick*, etc., now *alembic, almanac, antic, arithmetic, attic, catholic, comic, frolic, havoc, mimic, music, public*, etc. Ex. *Bannoc, barrac, bulloc, cammoc, cassoc, charloc, derrie, haddoc, hammoc, hassoc, hemloc, hilloc, hummoc, mammoc, mattoc, paddoc, polloc, puttoc, ruddoc, rulloc, shamroc, tussoc*,

wedloc, bailiwick, etc. So also: Haversac, napsac, nicnac, ransac (where there is a secondary stress). *Cassocked, hummocked*, etc., become *cassoct, hummoct*, etc., like *mimict, picnict, traffict*, etc.

- 3 -e final, silent, after a single consonant preceded by a short vowel, *strest*, or by any *strest* vowel whose sound is not conventionally associated with the silent final -e. Ex. *Bade, have, give, live, forgive, misgive; are, gone, were*. RULE: Drop e. Ex. *Bad, hav, giv, liv, forgiv, misgiv*, etc.: *ar, gon, wer*.

- 4 -ea- pronounst as long *a* before *r*. Ex. *Hearken, heart, hearten, hearth, hearty*. RULE: Drop e. Ex. *Harken, hart, harten, harth, harty*.

- 5 -ew pronounst as long *u* after *l* or *r*, or *ch*. Ex. *Blew, clew, flew, slew, brew, crew, drew, grew, screw, threw, chew*, etc. RULE: Change to -u. Ex. *Blu, clu, flu, slu, bru, cru, dru, gru, scru, thru, chu*, etc. See 27.

Inflections: (1) -owed becomes -ued, Ex. *Brued, chued, scrued*. (2) -ews becomes -ues. *Brues, chues, crues, scrues*. See 27.

- 6 -ey, unstrest, pronounst like short final *y*. Ex. *Abbey, alley, attorney, barley, chimney, cockney, donkey, galley, hackney*, etc. RULE: Drop e. Ex. *Abby, ally, attorney, barly, chimny, cockny, donky, gally, hackny, hony, jersy, jocky, jurny, kersy, kidny, lacky, lampry, linsy-woolsy, medly, mony, monky, motly, parly, parsly, pully, trolly, turky, vally, volly, whisky*.

- 7 -ff final, pronounst *f*. Ex. *Bluff, buff, chaff, chuff, cliff, cuff, doff, duff, gaff, gruff, huff, luff, miff, muff, ruff, sniff, snuff, staff, stiff, stuff, tiff, whiff*, etc.; *bailiff, caitiff, distaff, mastiff, midriff, tariff*, etc. RULE: Drop one *f*. Ex. *Bluf, buf, chaf, chuf, clif, cuf, dof, duf, gaf, gruf, huf, luf, mif, muf, ruf, snif, snuf, staf, stif, stuf, tif, whif*, etc.; *bailif, caitif, distaf, mastif, midrif, plaintif, pontif, sherif, tarif*, etc. Retain *off*. See the general rule, paragraf 30.

Medial -ff- is retaind, as in *buffing, chaffing*, etc. And so in *coffing, troffing, ruffing*, etc., for *coughing, trougging, roughing*, etc. See 8.

- 8 -gh pronounst *f*, in -augh, -aught, or -ough. Ex. *Draught, laugh, laughter, chough*,

*clough, cough, enough, rough, slough, tough, trough*, etc. RULE: Change to -f (changing also *au* to *a*, and *ou* to *o* or *u*). Ex. *Draft, laf, lafter, chuf, cluf, cof, enuf, ruf, sluf, tuf, trof*, etc.; and hence *laffing, coffing, sluffing, ruffen, tuffen, ruffer, tuffer*, etc. [First List, as to *draught, draft*.]

- 9 -gh silent. (1) In -aught. Ex. *Aught, caught, daughter, distraught, fraught, haughty, slaughter, taught*, etc. (2) In -ought pronounst like *out*. Ex. *Drought*. RULE: Drop *gh*. Ex. *Aut, caut, dauter, distraut, fraut, hauty, slauter, taut*, etc.; *drout*.

- 10 gn- pronounst *n*. Ex. *Gnarl, gnarled, gnarly, gnash, gnat, gnaw, gneiss, gnome, gnostic, gnomon, gnostic*, etc. RULE: Drop *g*. Ex. *Narl, narld, narly, nash, nat, naw, neis, nome, nomic, nomon, nostic*, etc. See *kn-*.

- 11 -gn in -eign pronounst like *ein* in *vein*, *skein, seine, feint*. Ex. *Deign, feign, reign*. RULE: Drop *g*. Ex. *Dein, fein, rein*. *Foreign* and *sovereign*, with -eign unstrest, hav been simplified to *foren* and *soveren* (Second List).

- 12 kn- pronounst *n*. Ex. *Knack, knag, knap, knapsack, knave, knead, knee, kneel, kneeling, knell, knelt, knick-knack, knife, knit, knitting, knob, knock, knocker, knop, knoll, knot, knotting, know, knowing, knowledge, known, knuckle, knurl, knurled*, etc. RULE: Drop *k*. Ex. *Nack, nag, nap, napsac, nave, nead, nee, neel, neeling, nel, nelt, nicnac, nife, nit, nitting, nob, nock, nocker, nocking, nop, noll, not, notting, nuckle, nurl, nurld*, etc. But keep *k* in *kno (know)* and *knoledge (knowledge)* (see 20).

See *gn-* and *wr-*.

- 13 -ll final, after a short *strest* vowel. Ex. *Bell, bill, doll, full, pull, null*, etc. RULE: Drop one *l*. Ex. *Shal, bel, cel, del, dwel, el, fel, hel, sel, shel, smel, spel, swel, tel, wel, bil, chil, dil, dril, fil, fril, gil, gril, hil, kil, mil, pil, quil, ril, shril, sil, skil, spil, squil, stil, swil, thil, thril, til, wil, dol, bul, ful, pul, cul, dul, gul, hul, mul, nul, skul*, etc. Also, of course, forms like *distil, fulfil, instil*, and derivatives like *skilful, wilful, dulness, fulness*, etc., which ar by rule and in fact the normal spellings (like *annul, compel, dispel, expel, impel, rebel, repel, until*), ar in accepted use, and

ar included in the First List. See the general rule, paragraf 30.

When the preceding vowel is long, retain the common spelling. Ex. *All, ball, call, fall, small, tall, etc., boll, droll, poll, roll, toll, etc.* The double -l does not, of course, in itself indicate a long vowel.

- 14 -nced, after a strest vowel, pronounst like **nst**. Ex. *Advanced, chanced, danced, glanced, lanced, commenced, fenced, etc.* RULE: Change to -nst. Ex. *Advanst, chanst, danst, glanst, lanst, pranst, transt, enhanst, commenst, fenst, convinst, evinst, minst, winst, bounst, flounst, pounst, trounst, announst, denounst, enounst, pronounst, renounst, etc.* These forms ar in accord with *condenst, incenst, rinst, etc.* (for *condensed, etc.*), as recommended in the Second List. Spellings like *advanst, danst, winst, bounst*, wer formerly common. The change of -nced to -nst is obviously a gain in economy.

It has been proposed to change the spelling of the present tense of these verbs, and the spelling of the corresponding nouns and of other words with -nce after a strest vowel, from -nce to -nse, thus: *Advanse, chanse, danse, fense, pense, minse, etc.*, and also *hense, thense, whense, prinse, sinse, etc.* This would be in accord with English rules and analogies (for example, *dense, tense, rinse, etc.*), and with historic facts. But some advocates of change would at the same time drop the final -e, producing forms like *chans, dans, fens, pens, etc.* Others then object that such forms look like plurals. But owing to the divided state of opinion, no recommendation of any change is made here.

- 15 -nced, after an unstrest vowel, pronounst like **nst**. Ex. *Balanced, circumstanced, distanced, evidenced, experienced, influenced, instanced, etc.* RULE: Change to -nst. Ex. *Balanst, circumstanced, distanst, evidenst, experienst, influenst, instanst, etc.* See remark under 14.
- 16 -oe pronounst o. Ex. *Doe, floe, foe, hoe, roe, sloe, toe, woe, etc.* RULE: Drop e. Ex. *Do, flo, fo, ho, ro, slo, to, wo, etc.* Inflections: Retain -oed, -oes. Ex. *Hoed, hoes, toes, woes, etc.*
- 17 -ou- pronounst like u in *but*. Ex. *Country, couple, cousin, double, joust, touch, trouble,*

*young, yunker; chough, clough, rough, tough.* RULE: Drop o. Ex. *Cuntry, just, tuch, yung, yunker; chuf, cluf, ruf, tuf* (see paragraf 8). But *couple, cousin, double, trouble* ar left unchanged. For unstrest -ou- see -ous.

- 18 -ou- before r, pronounst like u in *burn*. Ex. *Adjourn, courage, courteous, courtesy, encourage, flourish, journal, journey, nourish, sojourn, tournament, tourney.* RULE: Drop o. Ex. *Adjurn, curteus, curtesy, jurnal, jurny, sojurn, turnament, turny.* But *courage, flourish, nourish*, ar left unchanged.
- 19 -ous, unstrest, pronounst like -us unstrest. Ex. *Bilious, callous, devious, famous, glorious, serious, various, etc.* RULE: Change to -us. Ex. *Bilius, callus, devius, famus, glorius, serius, varius, etc.*
- 20 -ow, strest or unstrest, pronounst like o, long (ō) or short (o). Ex. *Blow, bow, crow, flow, glow, grow, know, low, mow, row, show, slow, snow, sow, stow, strow, throw, tow, etc.; below, bestow, etc.; bellow, billow, fellow, furrow, hallow, hollow, etc.* RULE: Change to -o. Ex. *Blo, bo, cro, flo, glo, gro, kno, lo, mo, ro, sho, slo, sno, so, sto, stro, thro, to, etc.; belo, besto, etc.; bello, billo, fello, furro, hallo, hollo, mello, pillo, sallo, willo, etc.*
- Inflections: (1) -owed becomes -oed. Ex. *Croed, floed, gloed, belloed, folloed, furroed, etc.* (2) -ows becomes -oes. Ex. *Bloes, croes, floes, gloes, belloes, felloes, halloes, etc.* (3) -own remains. The alternativs ar -one and -oen.
- 21 ph pronounst f. Ex. *Phantasm, phantom, philosophy, etc.* (a multitude of words). RULE: Change to f. Ex. *Fantasm, fantasy, fantom, farmacy, fenix, fesant, filology, filosofy, flem, flox, fosforus, fotograf, fotosfere, frase, fysic, fysiology, etc.; alfabet, diafram, pamflet, autograf, paragraf, telegraf, bibliografy, biografy, fonetic, telephone; aferesis, atmosfere, blasfeme, cenotaf, dolfin, elephant, emfasis, emfatic, geografy, grafic, hemisfere, homofone, homograf, hyfen, morfia, morfology, orfan, parafrase, periphery, profet, profetic, sfere, sferic, sfinx, sofist, sofisticate, tyfoed, etc.* [First List, as to *fantasm, fantasy, etc.*, sulfur, etc. Second List, as to *alfabet, diafram, pamflet, autograf, fotograf, telegraf, etc.*]

The spelling with *f* is ancient and honorable, *tru* to fact and history, and to European usage. It is the regular spelling in Italian, in Spanish, and, by recent official action, in Portuguese. It is also the regular spelling in Swedish and Danish, Polish and Bohemian. See the statements, and examples of *ph* and *f*, in the Second List, 1908, p. 4, 5.

22 -*reed* pronounst like *rst*. Ex. *Amerced*, *forced*, *pierced*, etc. RULE: Change to -*rst*. Ex. *Amerst*, *forst*, *enforst*, *pierst*, etc. See -*nced*.

23 *rh-* pronounst like *r* (*h* silent). Ex. *Rhapsody*, *rhetoric*, *rheum*, *rheumatism*, *rhinoceros*, *rhizome*, *rhododendron*, *rhomboid*, *rhombus*, *rhubarb*, *rhyme*, *rhythm*, etc. RULE: Drop *h*. Ex. *Rapsody*, *retoric*, *reum*, *reumatism*, *rinoceros*, *rizome*, *rododendron*, *romboid*, *rombus*, *rubarb*, *rime*, *rythm*, etc.

24 -*rrh-* medial, pronounst like *r* (*h* silent). Ex. *Catarrhal*, *diarrhea*, *hemorrhage*, etc. RULE: Change to -*rr-* after a strest vowel, to -*r-* after an unstrest vowel. Ex. *Catarral*, *diarea*, *hemorage*, etc.

25 -*some* pronounst like -*sum*. Ex. *Adventure-some*, *blithesome*, *buxom* (*buxome*, *bucksome*), *handsome*, *winsome*, etc. RULE: Change to -*sum*. Ex. *Adventuresum*, *blithesum*, *burdensum*, *buxum* (*bucsum*), *cumbersum*, *darksum*, *fulsum*, *gamesum*, *handsum*, *irksum*, *lonesum*, *meddlesum*, *noisum*, *quarrelsum*, *tiresum*, *toilsum*, *toothsum*, *troublesum*, *winsum*, etc.

26 -*ss* final, in monosyllables, pronounst like *s*. Ex. *Bass*, *class*, *bless*, *press*, *bliss*, *miss*. *boss*, *cross*, *buss*, etc. RULE: Drop one *s*. Ex. *Bas*, *bras*, *clas*, *cras*, *glas*, *gras*, *las*, *mas*, *pas*, *bles*, *ches*, *cres*, *dres*, *les*, *mes*, *pres*, *stres*, *tres*, *blis*, *his*, *kis*, *mis*, *bos*, *cros*, *dros*, *flos*, *gros*, *los*, *mos*, *tos*, *bus*, *fus*, *mus*, *pus*, *trus*, etc. Compare *gas*, *bus* (*omnibus*), *pus*, *this*, *thus*. Anglo-Saxon had *bræs*, *glæs*, *græs*, etc. See the general rule, paragraf 30.

The rule applies to final -*ss* in monosyllables, but not in words of two or more syllables ending in -*ss* after -*e*, especially those having the suffix -*ess*, -*less*, or -*ness*, where the single -*s*, after -*e*, would, amid conventional spellings, look doubtful — as if it wer a

plural ending (thus: *Actres*, *needles*, *greatnes*, etc.; *congres*, *ogres*, etc.).

27 -*ue* final, after *l* or *r*, pronounst like long *u*. Ex. *Blue*, *clue*, *flue*, *glue*, etc.; *rue*, *true*, etc.; *accrue*, *construe*, *imbrue*. RULE: Change to -*u*. Ex. *Blu*, *clu*, *flu*, *glu*, etc.; *ru*, *tru*, etc.; *accru*, *constru*, *imbru*. Compare *bluing*, *gluing*, *truly*, *cruel*, *cruet*, etc. Inflections unchanged: *Blued*, *blues*, *glued*, etc. See 5.

This rule does not apply to -*ue* pronounst as a difthong (*iu* or *yu*), as in *cue*, *due*, etc.

28 *wr-*, with *w* silent. Ex. *Wrack*, *wraith*, *wrangle*, *wrap*, *wrath*, *wreak*, *wreath*, *wreathe*, *wreck*, *wren*, *wrench*, *wretch*, *wretched*, *wriggle*, *wright*, *wring*, *wrinkle*, *wrist*, *write*, *writhe*, *wrong*, *wroth*, *wrought*, *wrung*, etc. RULE: Drop *w*. Ex. *Rack*, *raith*, *range*, *rap*, *rath*, *reak*, *reath*, *reathe*, *reck*, *ren*, *rench*, *rest*, *restle*, *retch*, *retched*, *riggle*, *right*, *ring*, *rinkle*, *rist*, *rite*, *riter*, *rithe*, *riting*, *ritten*, *rong*, *roth*, *rought*, *rung*, etc.

29 -*zz* final. Ex. *Buzz*, *fizz*, *frizz*, *sizz*, *whizz*. RULE: Drop one *z*. Ex. *Buz*, *fiz*, *friz*, *siz*, *whiz*. See 30.

30 Double consonant, final, namely, -*bb*, -*dd*, -*ff*, -*gg*, -*ll*, -*nn*, -*rr*, -*ss*, -*tt*, -*zz*. Ex. *Ebb*, *add*, *odd*, *cuff*, *egg*, *ell*, *bunn*, *err*, *burr*, *whirr*, *bass*, *boss*, *press*, *nett*, *sett*, *buzz*, etc. RULE: Use a single consonant. Ex. *Eb*, *ad*, *od*, *cuf*, *eg*, *el*, *er*, *bur*, *whir*, *bas*, *bos*, *pres*, *net*, *set*, *buz*, etc. [First and Second List as to *bur* and *eg*.]

Spellings like *eb*, *eg*, *el*, *fel*, *wel*, *wil*, *buz*, etc., abound in former print.

This is a general rule. See the main divisions, with fuller lists, under -*ff*, -*ll*, -*ss*, -*zz*.

## ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

"Self Sentering" is a new material for re-inforst concrete.

"Da-Nite Binoculars" work at all hours.

The advertiser of "Postum" says that it "must be boiled 15 minutes" because "that brings out the *flavoir* and food value." Is the "flavour" all in the spelling?

The "Niagara Universal Rench" is advertized. That spelling givs one a "rench"—but is n't that better than "wrench"?

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Leland Stanford University has appointed a committee to consider what simplifications in spelling shall be used in the publications of that University.

President William T. Foster of Reed College, a member of the Advisory Council, is to give a series of educational lectures, including simplified spelling, illustrated by lantern slides.

Professor George H. Danton of Butler College, delivered a lecture at Columbus, Ohio, February 14, on Simplified Spelling, before the Columbus Branch of the Associate Collegiate Alumnae. A report of the lecture appeared in the *Ohio State Journal*, February 15. Professor Danton cited some of the results of his tour of last summer among several of the colleges and universities of the Middle West. The title of his address, "Poisoning the Wells," was a general quotation from the 'criticisms' often made by opponents of rational spelling, that to advocate a change of spelling is to "poison the wells of English literature." The anxiety of these critics in behalf of wells which, it appears, they have never visited, and from which they have never drawn any refreshment, is unselfish in the highest degree.

The *Butler Collegian* of Butler College, Indianapolis, Ohio, has been printing a series of articles on "Spelling Reform", in issues dated January 19, 25, Feb. 1, 8, and later.

The recent numbers of the *Reed College Record*, No. 8, December, 1912, and No. 9, January, 1913, exhibit simplified spelling in the normal surroundings of modern thought and action. The December number contains "Occasional Addresses," including two by President Foster, and one by President Jordan of Leland Stanford University. The *Record* bears the regular notice: "The spelling used in this bulletin is in accordance with the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board."

The *Advocate* of Parsons, West Va. (Nov. 21, 1912), contained an announcement of an organization for an annual spelling contest, which was perfected at a meeting held November 16. Officers were elected, and many persons were mentioned as having been chosen to serve on various committees.

The *London Times* is so fond of the *h* in *ghost* and *ghastly* that it uses the same in mentioning the Scotch "ghillies"—which make the gillies look more ghastly than ever.

## NO MONOPOLY

Dr. David Soloan has a letter in the *Canadian Mining Journal* (Toronto, December 15, 1912) on "The Monopoly of Coal." In this letter about the monopoly of coal he also discloses his hostility to a monopoly of spelling, by using the independent spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board and other bodies; and the editor of the *Canadian Mining Journal* calmly prints his letter so.

We note also, another letter by Dr. Soloan in the *Toronto Daily Star*, November 19, 1912, on "Political and Spelling Reform."

Dr. Soloan, had, too, in the *Montreal Witness* (reprinted in the *Truro Daily News*, Feb. 8, 1913), an article on simplified spelling, entitled "Robbery of Childhood." And in the *Halifax Morning Chronicle* (Jan. 31) he had an article entitled, "Canada's Federal Taxation as Compared with Other Countries."

## NEW S. S. S. LEAFLETS

The Simplified Spelling Society has issued a new set of two-page and four-page leaflets, printed in ordinary spelling, for the information and persuasion of the ordinary public. One series is entitled "Advantages of a Rational Spelling." Four leaflets: 1, 'The Saving of Time'; 2, 'The Teaching Would be Rational'; 3, 'The Gain to the Teaching of Our Language and Literature'; 4, 'English as the Language of the Empire and of Universal Intercourse.' Another series is entitled "Objections to Changing the Spelling." Five leaflets: 1, 'The Etymological Argument'; 2, 'The "Write, Right, Rite" Argument'; 3, 'The "No-Standard" Argument'; 4, 'The "Constant Change" Argument'; 5, 'The Aesthetic Argument.'

These several topics are treated with candor, clearness, and great ability. Each of these leaflets is admirably fitted to form the basis of a lecture on the subject.

## AN INVISIBLE SPELL RIMES WITH -LE.

I sent my Soul through the Invisible  
Some letter of that After-life to spell.  
—1867 FITZGERALD, Omar Khayyam (ed. 2), st. 71.

This shows that a literary artist may perceive, or at any rate use, a secondary stress on the syllable *-ble* after a single non-stress. In *applicable*, *honorable*, etc., there are two non-stresses before *-ble*.

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# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The seventh annual meeting of the Simplified Spelling Board was held at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 1 and 2, 1913, President Charles H. Grandgent in the chair.

### ATTENDANCE

At the first session, April 1, there were present the following members of the Board: Professor George O. Curme, Professor Clarence G. Child, Professor Oliver F. Emerson, Professor David Felmley, Professor Charles H. Grandgent (President), Professor George Hempl, Mr. Henry Holt, President John R. Kirk, Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, President Charles McKenny, Mr. William F. McLean, Professor Brander Matthews, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, President Z. X. Snyder, Principal David Soloman, Professor Calvin Thomas, Mr. E. O. Vaile, Dr. William Hayes Ward. On the following day Mr. Andrew Carnegie was present.

Of the Advisory Council there were present at one or more sessions: Professor George H. Danton, Professor Lewis F. Mott, Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, Mr. Francis Wilson.

### ADDRESS AND REPORTS

President Grandgent made an address in which he voiced the intellectual indignation which all thoughtful scholars and educators feel at the conditions of English orthography—the requirement that all pupils must learn, and all teachers must teach, and all writers must write, in an obsolete spelling, the modern English language—a language which has the most important present, and the most promising future, of all languages, but which is still kept in the bonds of an antiquated orthography. At the same time he counseled cur-

tesy and forbearance toward our opponents, as we expect tolerance from them; and above all he urged the need of harmony among ourselves, however our opinions may differ on questions of method. Professor Grandgent illustrated the pronunciation of English in specimens from Shakespeare, Franklin and Lowell, giving the pronunciation that was prevalent at the period in question. Part of this address will be published in the next number of the BULLETIN.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were presented and read, and the Treasurer's report was duly referred for audit.

The Secretary's report reviewed the work of the year, and recorded the successive steps of progress made in different sections of the country, and abroad. The principal items of such progress have been recorded in the successive numbers of the BULLETIN. The work within the Board and Advisory Council has culminated in the publication of the Fourth List (Circular No. 26, March 24, 1913), and its circulation, with accompanying documents, in great numbers among the people.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A committee consisting of Professor Emerson, Professor Hempl, and Dr. Soloman, was appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

At the second session on Wednesday, April 2, the committee made the following nominations, and the persons named were unanimously elected:

**PRESIDENT:** Professor Charles H. Grandgent, of Harvard University.

**VICE-PRESIDENTS:** William Archer, of London; Andrew Carnegie, of New York; Dr. David Starr Jordan, Chancellor of Stanford University; Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, of Yale University; Dr. Alexander H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia; William F.

MacLean, M.P., Toronto, Ont.; Homer H. Seerley, President of the Iowa State Teachers College; Dr. Andrew D. White, Cornell University; Dr. Robert S. Woodward, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIV COMMITTEE: Professor Clarence G. Child, Mr. Henry Holt, Professor Thomas R. Lounsbury, Professor Brander Matthews, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott, Professor Calvin Thomas, Dr. William Hayes Ward; with the President, Professor Charles H. Grandgent, a member *ex officio*.

At the first meeting of the new Executiv Committee, April 16, 1913, Professor Brander Matthews was elected Chairman, and Dr. Charles P. G. Scott was reelected Secretary and Tresurer.

### MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

A committee consisting of Professor Child, Professor Matthews, and Dr. MacKay, was appointed to prepare resolutions in memory of the members of the Board who had died during the year.

On the folloing day the committee presented as their report these minutes, which wer unanimously adopted:

DR. BENJAMIN E. SMITH

The Simplified Spelling Board, at its annual meeting, April 1-2, 1913, records its deep sense of los thru the deth, on February 25, of Dr. Benjamin E. Smith, managing editor of the Century Dictionary, at once a scolar and a practical man of affairs; one who, without ostentation and with avoidance of recognition, workt for the best interests of the community in which he livd; a member of the Board and of the Executiv Committee from the beginning; therefore be it

RESOLVD, That the Board enter this expression of its sense of los upon its minutes, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family in token of its sympathy.

ORLANDO C. BLACKMER

The Simplified Spelling Board, at its annual meeting, April 1-2, 1913, records the deth, in his 86th year, of Orlando C. Blackmer, an ardent worker in the cause of fonetic reform and of simplified spelling for half a century; a teacher fild with devotion and enthusiasm for his calling; a man of singular sincerity, who endeard himself to those who knew him by the amiability of his caracter; therefore be it

RESOLVD, That the Board enter this record upon its minutes, and that its sympathy be tenderd to his family.

REV. DR. ISAAC K. FUNK

The Simplified Spelling Board, at its annual meeting, April 1-2, 1913, places upon record its high appreciation of the labors and activities of the Rev. Dr. Isaac K. Funk, for many years a publisher, editor of the Standard Dictionary and of the *Literary Digest*; one in whom interest in the ritten word extended to its reform, and to the support of its reform in his publications; an assiduus and useful member of the Board from its beginning; therefore be it

RESOLVD, That the Board enter this record upon its minutes, and that a copy be sent to his family in token of its sympathy.

REV. PROFESSOR WALTER W. SKEAT

The Simplified Spelling Board, at its annual meeting, April 1-2, 1913, desires to commemorate the los to English scholarship thruout the world thru the deth of the Rev. Professor Walter W. Skeat, a student all his days, as etymologist, lexicografer, and editor; one whose increasing knoledge never led him to be unmindful to aid by his books and counsel those starting upon the paths he had folloed: one whose devotion to the past of his mother-tung made him not forgetful of its present and future; a spelling reformer, and an offiser of the Simplified Spelling Society, and of this Board: be it therefore

RESOLVD: That the Board join with the Simplified Spelling Society in this commemoration, and that its sympathy be tenderd to his family.

### AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

In accordance with notis previusly given, the Secretary, speaking for the Executiv Committee, proposed the folloing amendment to the Bylaws:

"At the end of Bylaw 7, which reads: 'These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided notis of such proposed amendment be mailed to each member at least thirty days before the Annual Meeting,' *ad these words*: 'Or they may be amended at any time, upon the recommendation of the Executiv Committee, by a two-thirds vote by mail of the members of the Board.'"

On motion this amendment was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Holt, in accordance with a previus notis, moved that the folloing section be added to the Bylaws:

"8. The approval of members of the Board shal make the promulgation of orthografic improvements by the Executiv Committee permissiv,

but not mandatory; and if the Executiv Committee shal ever conclude that any supposed improvement has been a mistake, the committee may withdraw it."

After discussion, in which it was pointed out that any recommendation heretofore made by the Board may be amended or withdrawn with the consent of the Board, ascertain'd by due process, the mover withdru the second clause of the amendment. The first clause was then adopted, as folloes:

"The approval of members of the Board shal make the promulgation of orthografic improvements by the Executiv Committee permissiv, but not mandatory."

### THE NORTH CENTRAL BRANCH

Professor Emerson, the Secretary of the North Central Branch, made a report of the progress of the movement in the North Central states; and a committee was appointed to consider plans for the further prosecution of work in that section of the country. At a later session this committee reported in favor of sending a special agent of the Board to look over the North Central field, and to report to the Executiv Committee on methods and means to be adopted for enlarging the propaganda in that territory.

### PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS

Professor EMERSON, at the second session, Wednesday, April 2, red a paper, entitled "A Modest Proposal for the Further Amelioration of Our Spelling." It recommended the uniform use of *s* for the *s* sound and *z* for the *z* sound in all English words. Professor Emerson presented the results of an actual examination of selected paragraphs, in which the number of times the sounds and letters occur'd was stated, shoing the gain that would follo from the adoption of a uniform notation for each of the two sounds. In the discussion that folloed, it was stated that a rule for the uniform notation of the *s* and *z* sounds was included in the proposals which preceded the publication of the Fourth List, and that for reasons that seemd sufficient the proposal was postponed until it shal appear that it has greater support. It would involv changes in many thousand words, and the appearance of a final *z* in innumerable plurals and present tenses.

Mr. E. O. VAILE red a paper on the "Wisdom and Necessity of the Board's Avowing Fonetic Spelling as the Ultimate Object of the Move-

ment We ar Promoting; and of our Endorsing the So-cald N. E. A. Alfabet as our Final Definition of this Reform, and of our Inaugurating Plans at once for Demonstrating the Efficiency of said Alfabet, and of the Fonetic Method of Teaching Reading by Means of It;" and offerd resolutions looking to the preparation of first and second readers in fonetic spelling, and their use in teaching beginners to read. The resolutions wer discust and wer referd to the Executiv Committee.

Professor GEORGE HEMPL at the beginning of the last session, presented a paper, entitled "Simplification of Spelling in Ancient Times, or the Origin of the Greek Alfabet," presenting some yet unpublisht results of his investigation of the Cretan and Hittite caracters, and their relation to the Greek letters. We regret that space prevents our printing an abstract of this extremely interesting lecture, and of other matters that wer discust at the annual meeting.

### BROOKLYN SPELLING REFORM SOCIETY

The first annual meeting of the Brooklyn Spelling Reform Society was held at Adelphi College, Brooklyn, N. Y., on the evening of May 16, 1913. This society is the outgrowth of the meeting held at the same place, Feb. 25, thru the efforts of Professor Joseph Bowden, of Adelphi College, as reported in the March BULLETIN.

Mr. Eugene C. Alder, principal of Adelphi Academy, made an address of welcome and introduced the temporary chairman, Mr. Charles S. Carrington. After Mr. Carrington had made a short address, explaining the purpose of the organization, a constitution was adopted, and the folloing officers wer elected to serv for one year: President, Dr. William L. Felter, principal of the Girls' High School, Brooklyn; Vice-President, Mr. Charles S. Carrington; Tresurer, Mr. George A. Taber, instructor in the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute; Secretary, Miss Maude Rollins Osborne.

In the absence of Dr. Felter, Mr. Carrington took the chair.

Dr. Charles P. G. Scott deliverd an address on "The Intellectual Basis of Simplicity"; and Mr. Henry Gallup Paine spoke on "Present Activity in Simplified Spelling." The exercises concluded with a lecture on "Progress in Spelling Reform," illustrated with lantern slides, by Professor Joseph Bowden.

## HEDLONG HEDLINES

The publication of the Fourth List of Simplified Spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board was so managed that all the principal newspapers were put into possession of the List a day or two before. But they did not need any time to prepare their headlines. Headlines are seldom prepared. They are slapped down and slapped in. They are meant to strike, and are indeed sometimes stunning. They form the literary pabulum of great numbers of readers. And though headlines are not always remarkable for accuracy, they serve to show two things—the state of mind of the editor who puts them in, and his view of the things that will attract or please the public that is satisfied with his paper. But their value is greatly increased when they are compared with the headlines in other papers about the same subject. Indeed, when put together, when strung in a line, they may become positively valuable.

And it is so with regard to the Fourth List. We have thought it good to record here for the pleasure of our readers, and for the future historian, some of the headlines that appeared in the American newspapers at the time of the publication of the Fourth List. We omit the names and dates of the newspapers quoted. This will be kind to some of the newspaper editors, whose manners may thus be admired without damage to their modesty.

We Laugh and We Cough Now, Simplified Spellers Say So.

If Laugh is Odd, Look at Glue. Simplified Touch for More Words. Your Employer becomes Boss; perhaps He Bellos. And your Cash is Shorter, being Money.

It Looks Funny.

Sum More to be Spelled in the New Way. Simplified Spelling Board gives out List of 30 Rules.

Simplified Spellers Change 1,000 Words. Fourth List of Changed Orthography Takes the H Out of Chaos and K Out of Knee.

Change Words in New Spelling. Leave H out in Chaos, and K in Knee.

Simplified Spellers Now Mangle More English. Yank C and H apart so that "School" spells School and "Cous" Menes Chorus. K also Torn from C. Thus Knapsack is "Napsac". Rule "3" Banishes Silent E; "Bad" Menes Two Things.

Simplified Spellers Make New Attack. Remove Letters from Many of the Commonest Words of Everyday Life. Say the changes are "Well," but Admit They Look "Odd". The Fourth List of Rules.

Another Dose of Spelling Reform.

Der Reder, Don't Let This New Spelling Make You Laugh. Famous Board Gives Out More Rules—Letter 'H' Is Dropt in Words Like Cous and Eco.

Simplified Spelling Board Issues New List of Words. Another Spelling List is Published. Board Suggests Altered Orthography as Far as Alphabet Permits.

Simplified Words Offered. New List is Issued by the Spelling Reformers. Rules Remove Letters from Many of the Commonest Words of Everyday Life.

Further Reforms in Spelling. Board that has been Championing Changes in Spelling Issues a New Bulletin of Proposed Changes.

Another Verbal Mutilation.

New Spellers Are Out Again. King's English is Given Some Jolts. More Simplifying is Done. New York Board Makes Fourth Assault on Old Fashioned Methods of Orthography. Many Endings Rudely Stripped. School is Now "Scool." Bluff is Now "Bluf."

It May Look Odd, But Here's Answer. Altered Appearance of Words Suggested by the Simplified Spelling Board's Suggestion. Easy after Some Practice.

Many Old Words "Spelled in New Way."

Poor Old Alphabet is Again Guilty. Language is Once More Declared Archaic and Word Mechanics are Busy. More Cameleon Changes. Everybody Must Again Go to School and Learn How to Spell. Slur of Words Changed.

More Revised Orthography. Simplified Spelling Board Drop Several Silent Letters in Fourth List of Words.

Spelling "Board" Out to "Spread" Reforms. Warns Public Not to be Too Much "Influenced" by "Odd" "Orthography."

Spelling Board Issues New Simplified List. Urges Public Not to "Be Too Much Influenced by Odd Appearance of Words." Predicts Use in Schools. Also Gives Summary New Rules for Phonography System and Promises a Vocabulary "When People Are Ready."

Phonetic Spellers Are Back Again With New Learners' Pamphlet. Alphabet May Grow Summary More Letters for Youngsters to Master. This is expected to be Tough. No Lafter but Nocking Sure to Greet Scheme. Noledge Will be Set at Nites as of Yore, and Boys Will Cut Notes With a Knife, and Yet Enuff.

Gink that Put "h" in School and "k" on Luc Gets Rapped. Simplified Spelling Society Knocks 'em Out Along with Several Others.

Odd and Altered Words Formed and Published by New Fangled Spellers.

Only Chaotic List. Ruf Stuff Put Out By The Men Who Spell Simply. Serious Blo No Doubt, But Only for Harty Crew of Jelous Nockers.

## A BUSINESS MAN'S VIEWS

The Simplified Spelling Society has published a separate leaflet, No. 13 (dated "31: iii: '13"), entitled "A Business Man's Views: Interview with Dr. G. B. Hunter" (the shipbuilder). It is a reprint of an article in *The North Mail*. We quote these sentences of Dr. Hunter's:

Delay in adopting improved spelling is the chief obstacle to English becoming the world language (p. 2). I do not think learning conventional spelling is a good mental exercise (p. 4). The humiliation of having to refer to a dictionary for the spelling of words and of having to use forms of spelling which are evidently absurd, would be avoided. With our present system the importance attached to every one spelling the same as everybody else is ridiculous (p. 4). I am strongly of opinion too that our printed and written words should express the correct emphasis, as well as the correct vowel and consonant sounds (p. 4).

The editor of *The North Mail* adds this:

Dr. Hunter is on the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society, but he regards the "new spelling" as tentative. He wants, however, to hurry on the propaganda, so that the government may be led to appoint a Language Commission to deal with the whole vast and urgent subject. For the time is at hand, no doubt, when revised spelling will step from pillory to Parliament (p. 4).

## WIL BE USED UNIVERSALLY

There appeared, April 24, a report from Spokane, Washington, that "simplified spelling is to be the vogue in Spokane county schools, but not in the city of Spokane, according to announcements of County Superintendent F. V. Yeager and City Superintendent Bruce M. Watson."

The County Superintendent, Mr. F. V. Yeager, says he is "in sympathy with the plans of the Simplified Spelling Board, and will prepare lists to be sent to all teachers under his direction. 'Denatured' spelling will prevail in his official correspondence. 'I realize that the spelling will meet with opposition,' he said; 'but it is a reform that should be approved by every educator.'"

The City Superintendent, Mr. Bruce M. Watson, "believes that simplified spelling will be used universally in time." But "he takes the position that it is not the business of the public schools to force the issue. 'We do pretty well if we teach the children of this day the way we now have,' he said, 'instead of confusing them with a new system.'"

## ACTIVITY IN KANSAS

The movement among educators in Kansas to promote the use of simplified spelling in the schools and colleges of that State has resulted in the formation of the Wichita Committee on Simplified Spelling. This committee now consists of Professor W. G. Binnewies, Chairman, Fairmount College, Wichita; L. L. Mayberry, superintendent of public schools; I. N. Allen, principal of Wichita High School; J. W. Swaney, county superintendent of public instruction; Professor B. W. Truesdell, Professor Charles E. Cosand, and Professor William L. Pearson of Friends University; and Professor Wald of Fairmount College.

The committee has brought the matter to the attention of the State superintendent of public instruction, and of the State text-book commission. Two members of the State text-book commission are reported to be "inclined to adopt a simplified spelling text." Notices of this movement appeared in Kansas papers of May 8 and 9, and later.

But there are some defenders of the old ways. Thus, one man who signs himself "Old Fashioned" writes to the *Wichita Beacon* (May 12): "I'm one parent who doesn't believe in simplified spelling. If that youngster of mine can't

learn to spell words like they should be, he won't go to school any more. The children are just as smart as ever. We learned to spell some whoppers when I went to school." (Do you mean spel, or tel?) He concludes: "Give them the hard words." In this learned, judicious, and logical manner, parents of this old-fashioned kind (there are other old-fashioned kinds) will doubtless long continue to express their matured opinions.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Professor Charles H. Grandgent, the President of the Simplified Spelling Board, made an address on "Some Fases of English Pronunciation and Orthography," at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the New England Modern Language Association, May 10, 1913.

The official letterheads of the First District Normal School of Missouri, Kirksville, of which Dr. Kirk is President, bear this notice: "Official correspondence of the Normal School follows in large part the spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board."

Professor Roderick Scott of Earlham College, Richmond, Ind., sent in, April 12, 1913, 25 cards signed by students of Earlham in approval of the principle and practice of simplified spelling. It was at Earlham that this happened not long ago: The professor of rhetoric asked a freshman class of 110 members, which side they would take, if obliged to make a choice between simplifying the spelling of English and letting it alone. Every member but one took the side of simplification, some limiting the degree to which they would go. The one member who took the other side expressly said that he did so for esthetic reasons—probably on the ground that a thing of beauty, like the traditional spelling of English, is a joy for ever.

Simplified spelling is going in favor in the Normal Schools of Pennsylvania. In the Normal School at Bloomsburg, Pa., of which Dr. David J. Waller, a member of the Advisory Council, is President, the idea is now almost orthodox. Professor O. H. Bakeless, of the department of pedagogy, is diffusing information—on the last occasion, if not before, "to an interested and enthusiastic company." We may hope soon to see this interest and enthusiasm translated into the visible form of simplified spellings printed in the publications of these schools.

## A CONSERVATIV MOVEMENT

The Halifax (Nova Scotia) *Herald*, April 16, 1913, contains the following article relating to the recognition of Simplified Spelling by the government of that province:

### GOVERNMENT SAILING THE MIDDLE COURSE

*Permit Reformed Spelling in Some Departments and Not in Others.—Very Luke-Warm on Question Generally*

As the question of simplified spelling is becoming to be recognized more and more as one of moment, the following series of answers handed down in the house of assembly, (pursuant to questions by Mr. O'Brien, the member for Antigonish) will prove of more than ordinary interest:—

Is it the policy of the government to introduce reformed spelling?

Ans.—No.

Have the government authorized the use of reformed spelling in any branch of the education system of the province?

Ans.—Simpler spelling supported by good dictionary authority is permissive under the education department.

When and how was such authority given, and to whom?

Ans.—21st May, 1892, to the superintendent of education, who was instructed to direct provincial examiners not to penalize candidates for using spelling with good authority.

Is it the intention of the government to cause reformed spelling to be used in the reports of all the departments of government.

Ans.—No.

Have the government approved of the use of reformed spelling in any department reports; and if so, in what reports?

Ans.—The government have printed and approved that spelling which is used in the reports of the various departments to the government as presented to this legislature.

Is it the policy of the government to gradually work reformed spelling into the public school work?

Ans.—No; until there is a general agreement arrived at by the education departments throughout the empire.

If not, for what reason do the government permit the use of reformed spelling in the publications issued from the education department?

Answered by numbers 3 and 5.

It will be inferred from the headlines that the *Herald* itself is not violently opposed to the use of simplified spelling. When a newspaper is opposed to simplified spelling, the rule is to use abusive headlines whenever it is mentioned. Thus their headlines speak their minds.

The *Herald* is, in fact, openly on the side of a modernized spelling. It uses many of the modernized forms. In the very issue from which we quote, we notice these spellings: *Altho* (p. 12), *thru* (pp. 6, 12), *addrest* (p. 12), *discust*, *possest* (p. 13), *past* (pp. 1, 6), *defense* (pp. 1, 6), *glamor* (p. 6), *partizan* (p. 6), *surpast* (p. 6), *exprest* (p. 6), *thruout* (p. 6), *lookt* (p. 6), and the like. Some readers may think it significant that these modernized spellings are used by a newspaper that is in politics 'Conservativ'—and the *Herald* does not let its readers harbor a doubt on that point. But all advocates of simplified spelling are in a true sense conservativ, because they are trying to regulate

English spelling according to accepted and long-used rules and analogies, and trying to remove, so far as possible, the errors and irregularities which have attached themselves, like barnacles, to the general body of rules and analogies.

## "WHY WE SIMPLIFY"

The New York *Independent*, under this heading, explains (May 15, 1913) why it uses a somewhat modernized spelling:

We go back, or think we ought to go back, to a simpler life; shall we not also have a simpler spelling?

The *Independent* has taken a few steps in this direction, not many, for a complete simplification is not so simple.

Of course, nobody ought to like bad spelling, and *though* is bad spelling. Only one of its letters has its own pronunciation. There are six letters and only two sounds. Three letters are a useless burden to the word. The spelling is detestable and ought to be changed, for the benefit of us who write and are used to it, and of our children and of foreigners. We are reformers—it is an age of reform—and let us begin right there, and write it *tho*. That is a start; that settles the principle; it pledges us to the reform, and all the rest will come easier some day.

If the *Independent* has been a leader, we have not gone nearly as far in the reform as pretty nearly all the scholars of English wish. They know how much simplification has been achieved in three centuries and how much more is needed. We would have our dailies, weeklies and monthlies think of the matter, and see what they can do, at least those journals that are progressive, that believe in reform, that would lead rather than follow. To do it is not so hard as it may seem, and the readers will not be offended. It is bound to come. The universities are adopting it, and the teachers' associations. The movement is on the advance, and there is no lion in the way. We are not in the condition of the fox which had lost its tail in a trap and asked other foxes to cut off their tails, for we purposely cut off the tail of *though* and are glad of it. We could put it on again, but we shall not.

Here is a weekly magazine, well known, long known, truly independent, but well supported by a high class of intelligent and modern readers. It has long advocated and practised simplified spelling, and, we have been assured, it has never suffered any inconvenience or loss thereby. The new ways are not now new to the editors. *Tho* is as easy and as convenient as *go* or *so*, and to roll off *catalog* is as easy as rolling off any other log. It is only the editors who have never tried simplified spelling who find it difficult.

## PREST FROM THE PRES

The Lancaster (Ohio) *Eagle*, April 15, 1913, in the course of a short flight over the field of spelling, takes this keen view: "The only way really to spell a word is the natural way; and if *chaos* can be spelled *caos*, and *sphinx* *sfinx*, and *turkey* *turky*; and *egg* with two letters, and *laugh* be changed into *laf*, and a *boss* is turned into *bos*, then how can there be a contest over the spelling of a word, since the spelling is reduced to a system that proscribes all of the letters that are useless in the pronunciation of a word?"

The Utica (N. Y.) *Press* of March 25, 1913, in a favorable editorial notice of the proposals contained in the Fourth List, used these words, in this simplified spelling: "The new list sent out by the Simplified Spelling Board has some striking examples of words that are changed to conform to the rules. Already changes have been made in several hundred words which are spelled with no silent letters. The Fourth List is designed to 'remove many minor irregularities' and to settle any doubt when it may exist. To some may *laf* at simplified spelling, the foreigner learning English will have less trouble if he adopts the rules of the board.' . . . Simplified spelling is no longer a laughing matter and is gaining ground, although many words look odd spelled under the altered way. It is characteristic of the American people to poke fun at fonetic spelling or at anything that might be called an innovation, but in time the simplified spellers feel sure they will be in the majority."

The Kewanee (Ill.) *Star-Courier*, April 9, 1913, says: "Nevertheless, the English language is being simplified all the time. Twenty years ago everybody spelled it 'programme.' Today probably the majority of newspapers cut off the word's superfluous petticoat. When Americans spell 'honor' without the 'u' English cousins call it western barbarism. When the letter 'k' was left off 'critic' and 'public', many editors kept on using the 'k' for a generation. But these old spellings would look as grotesque today as knee breeches and silver buckles."

It seems that even the Boston fire department is trying to put out the 'blazing indiscretions' of the conventional spelling. The Boston *Record*, April 18, 1913, says: "Simplified Spelling has taken hold in the fire department. A district chief in the 10th district started it in

making his reports to headquarters, and it met with such favor that now 'everybody is doing it.' Like short cuts to make quicker arrival at a fire, the firemen find in simplified spelling a short cut to the end of what none of them like, the making of their reports to headquarters."

Paragraphs like the following are becoming rather common in the newspapers. Notice that the paragraph refers to the simplified spelling movement, that it is short, that it is not abusive, that it calmly mentions an obvious fact, and calmly expresses the expectation that improvements in spelling are likely to come, and to come without any harm. A few years ago such statements were rarely seen in print, except in letters from protest reformers:

The simplified spelling board has changed the orthography of 1,000 or more words, and while the new form looks odd and uncanny it may yet become popular. The English upbraid us for the slight changes we have made in their style of spelling, but it seems all right to us, and in the same manner we may yet become habituated to the greater changes made by the simplified spelling board. — Memphis (Tenn.) *News-Scimitar*, April 18, 1913.

*The Pioneer of Simplified Spelling*, for April 1913, advises its members: "Duu yur best"; gives a summary of the recommendations contained in the Board's Fourth List of Simplified Spellings; deals with "pronunciation problems," this time with "ur and er" (page 57) and "unstressed syllables"; gives "Noets and Nyuz", and a list of "Members for the Month" (pp. 62, 63, 64); and glances at a long train of articles on spelling reform that have appeared in the British press.

The *Spectator* of Roosevelt, Long Island, N. Y., is not alarmed at the spectacle or specter of simplified spelling. We note in the issue of March 31, 1913, simplified spellings like these: *returnd*, *hav*, *wil*, *wer*, *enjoyabl*, *scolars*, *scool*, *kisst*, *thru*, *friends*, *rolld*, *receivd*, *winsom*. Incidentally it indicates the progress of the Progressive party to the popularity of a recognized abbreviation — it speaks of a "Prog. organ."

## RIPPING

The Simplified Spelling board started in like gentle zephyr; it would turn over only a few words, and would lay them down quietly, with but little change; then it became a gale, and used a multitude of words roughly; and finally it has become a tornado, ripping to pieces most of the words in common usage. But the users of the language go quietly along in quite the old way, and don't mind. — Salt Lake City (Utah) *Tribune*, April 17, 1913.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary and Treasurer; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Brander Matthews, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.

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(Signed) HENRY GALLUP PAINE, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of March, 1913.

(Signed) JULIE E. FOOTE,

SEAL

Notary Public, New York County, No. 156; New York Register 4181.  
My commission expires March 30, 1914.

## THE FOURTH LIST

In the Fourth List there are many gates to freedom. There are rules, indeed, but they are merely signs showing where the gates are open. Rules are, at the best, only adjustments; and adjustments can not be made with a sweep of the hand or a scratch of the pen. When you adjust a watch, you may put in a new spring, you may turn this screw and that, you may blow the dust from every corner; but this is adjustment, not new-making, and there must be exceptions—you are to *mend* that watch, and not to make a new one. So in spelling; we may mend much, we may give an improving touch here and there, but we can not make a clean sweep. That would sweep away the present spelling, and we must then put something in its place. What? We may prefer, we may recommend, a better kind of spelling; but who is prepared to understand or accept it? And even if a few hundred experts or enthusiasts agree to accept it, will they use it? Will they push it? Mental acceptance is nothing if it be not followed by action.

But in the Fourth List there are some rules that can be applied at once and throughout—with a clean sweep. There are some complete emancipations. Thus, no more GN- words! No more

KN- words! No more PH- words! No more WR- words! No more -OUS words! For those who accept and apply this comfortable doctrine, GN-, KN-, PH-, WR-, -OUS, now disappear from daily use, and take their place among the obsolete things, like the former English *sch* (*schal*, *schelle*, etc.), the former *sshe* (*fysshe*, *wasshe*, etc.), the former *catte*, *ratte*, *dogge*, *hogge*, *selle*, *telle*, *bille*, *hystorye*, *famyllye*, *oeconomy*, etc. It is goodbye—"Tomorrow to fresh woods and pastures new."

The same may be said of GH-, for the most part (*caut*, *taut*, *dauter*, *drout*, *draft*, etc.), though because many, who are otherwise willing, are not ready to settle upon any simplified spelling of words like *bought*, *brought*, *thought*, etc., or *blight*, *bright*, *fight*, *night*, *right*, *tight*, etc., no formal recommendation has yet been made as to these words. There is, however, nothing to hinder any emancipated soul from spelling these words now in a more spirited manner.

## PRONUNCIATION

The articles in the *Pioneer*, the organ of the Simplified Spelling Society, are more and more concerned with questions of pronunciation. And we notice that the letters in the British newspapers, from friends and foes of simplification, also deal much with pronunciation. And the British newspapers print the letters—often in the advanced spelling used by the writers.

Why? Because the subject is always interesting; because every word is a potential center of debate, in respect to pronunciation; because every man has an opinion; because the editors know that letters on such matters are "good copy," and yet do not cost anything; and finally, because the Society has, in its provisional scheme, a usable instrument of notation.

In America we are at a disadvantage in this. Questions of pronunciation abound, readers abound, opinions abound; but the newspapers are reluctant to "give space" to "academic questions," and seldom allow their correspondents to use any fonetic notation. Moreover, many American reformers are reluctant to employ, even for experiment, any general scheme of fonetic notation. Filologists, indeed, use a fonetic notation, but not in newspaper print.

One discussion in the British newspapers was about "Apreesiailt or apreeshiait," "apreesiaishon or apreeshiaishon," and "asoesiait or asoeshiait," etc. Do we, should we, use the one or the other pronunciation? And why? The facts

concerned, apart from preference or precept, ought to be stated for the information of the public; but between the ignorance or prejudice of the opposing side, and the newspapers' indifference to the facts, such debates are usually futile. Yet the exact facts about the pronunciations mentioned are accessible, and could be stated in newspaper print. Unfortunately, the only persons who know the facts are apt to be advocates of a regulation of English spelling, and are therefore regarded by newspaper editors with an eye of cold regard.

### ALLOWD

Professor James Geddes of Boston University, read, at the ninth annual meeting of the New England Modern Language Association, a paper entitled "Oral Instruction in Modern Languages." It appeared in *Education*, September, 1913 (pp. 27-35), and has been reprinted in a separate pamphlet. It abounds in spirited modern spellings.

The editor of *Education* says, in reference to the author's simple spelling: "We have allowed him to exemplify his theories on that subject in the spelling of many of the words in the present article." For this allowance, much thanks. Editors have been so long accustomed to 'allow' the authors whose articles they print to express the authors' own opinions, that they no longer think of it as 'allowing.' But that the authors should use any spelling except that which the editor likes — this thing is not to be 'allowd,' except in special cases like the present.

### "THE AID OF DERIVATIONS"

In the *San Francisco Chronicle*, April 30, 1913, after referring to the publication of the Fourth List by the Simplified Spelling Board, the editor sagely inquires: "Can it be that the committee has come to realize the venerable truth that language is an organism or growth slowly developing with the growth of a people, but never deliberately and artificially made; gradually modified by custom, but never suddenly remolded by a convention of grammarians or even others less qualified?" After this naive manifestation of his state of mind, the editor proceeds: "Simplified Spelling may be very simple to those who are just learning to read, but it is very distressing to the eye accustomed to the old, if not necessarily orthodox, spelling. It is also more difficult to the educated foreigner endeavoring to learn the language, since it deprives him of all

the aid of derivations." We find this same editorial in an other newspaper.

The tenderness of these editors for "derivations" which, it is evident, they have never seen, and could not recognize without a large label, is very pathetic. And the "educated foreigner," for example an educated Italian, striving in vain to understand the English word *philosophy*, because in that spelling he is "deprived of the aid of derivations" — the word being then so very unlike the Italian word *filosofia* — this is also a pathetic spectacle. It is clear that educated foreigners and other persons who may seek information at the hands of these editors will learn many things that they could never learn anywhere else.

But what's the use? Are American editors to give up their matured views of filology because the Italians don't know how to spell?

### THE DIAL IN A POKE

*The Dial*, "a semi-monthly journal of literary criticism, discussion and information" printed at Chicago, contains (April 16, 1913,) under "Casual Comment" (p. 322), a spritely paragraph beginning thus: "The tru-blu spelling-reformer will give a hearty welcome to the latest innovations adopted by the Board," continuing with a good many "innovations," including some of its own (no tru-blu anti-reformer seems willing to dispense with all misrepresentation), and ending with the statement that the *Dial* "is merely trying to keep itself and its readers at least partially informed of the latest indignities offered to our orthography by certain misguided zealots."

Our friends of the *Dial* seem to entertain no suspicion that *they* may be "misguided," and no thought that the blame latent in the word "zealots" may rest upon *them*, for the unthinking zeal they show in behalf of an antiquated orthography, against the almost unanimous opinion of modern scholars. It is good to be even "partially informed"; but why *keep* oneself "partially informed"? Why not learn more?

And you can learn more, even from the *Dial*. In the very same number (p. 340) a lady contributor is allowed to quote Spenser in Spenser's own spelling:

"He stroke, he soust, he foynd, he hewd, he lasht."

And the unwary editor, forgetting that Spenser was a leading member of the Elizabethan Simplified Spelling Board, admits the condensed information, and inspiration, contained in this one line.

## A GOOD SUGGESTION

A professor in a Western College cald upon the editor of the local newspaper, who had been making some crude but not unfriendly remarks upon the movement for simplified spelling, and "encouraged him to hav *one* reporter to study the subject, so that the ——— would not appear ridiculus when it speaks on this unavoidable fase of the news." The suggestion that there should be on the staf of a newspaper at least one person who shal understand the elements of a subject upon which the paper must needs print news and comment, is not unreasonable. There ar reporters, and even editors, who understand baseball, football, society doings, police doings, political meetings, market reports, horse-racing, prize-fights, etc. It is thought worth while that the reporters of these important branches of learning shal kno something about the matters they rite about. Why should it not be so in regard to simplified spelling? Incidentally, these reporters tel the truth, at least by intention, when they rite about these matters. Why not also about simplified spelling? But this may be too exacting. We do not insist upon it. Let the reporters at least rite with intelligence; perhaps the finer accuracy wil come hereafter.

## GOOD OLD NEWS

The SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, being a quarterly, does not hav to giv the news of the day. But it has the opportunity of seeing how the daily newspapers giv the news of the day.

Some Chicago journals printed on May 7, the action taken by the Council of the Northwestern University in February and announst in the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN for March (p. 42). The Chicago *Tribune* printed a list of the simplified spellings adopted; and the *Inter-Ocean* commented upon them as new recommendations. This marks progress; for the simplifications in question form the larger part of the "Three Hundred Words" and wer publisht only a short time ago — namely, March 6, 1906.

Some newspapers wer, at the end of May, stil copying from other newspapers the editorials that wer printed soon after the publication of the Fourth List, March 24, 1913. This is wel. This is good. It is really keeping up to date. The news of March 24, 1913, and of March 6, 1906, must be assimilated sooner or later. It is never too late to print; and some newspapers always hav a novelty in reserv — they can print the facts about simplified spelling.

## THE PURPOSE OF LISTS

The Simplified Spelling Board has printed four main lists of simplified forms of spelling, and many minor lists. Some years ago the Spelling Reform Association, and the filological societies of America and England, printed lists. The chemical, the botanical, the zoological societies, hav printed lists of recommended spellings and words. The making of a list is the beginning of science.

To print a list of words or forms is simply to put the ideas which they represent in a convenient shape to be seen and handled. One of the names of a list in botany and zoology indicates one main purpose of printing a list. A *check list* is a series of names or items, set in alfabetic or in classified order, or in both, in order that the students of science, the discoverers of new plants and animals, the riters of monographs, may quickly find out whether a given item has been duly recorded. The check list, when checkt, wil sho. The purpose of the check list is to supply a permanent memory to each worker.

And that is the purpose of lists of simplified spellings. The logical way is to adopt a principle or rule that may be applied to all words of a given class. If the spelling wer scientific there would be no need of rules. A fonetic alfabet is the necessary basis of a scientific scheme. The alfabet is learnd, and the words ar then ritten according to their sounds. But even in that case, it would be necessary, for many purposes, to print the words in fonetic form, and in alfabetic order. In every case there must be a list somewhere.

But the simplification of English spelling, short of fonetic spelling, means a series of decisions to change the spelling of some words, according to some standard. It means a process of change, which must be *regulated and expedited*. It is for that purpose that spelling reform societies exist.

The Simplified Spelling Board is recognized as an agency for that purpose. It has no power beyond that which its supporters giv it. But it consults its supporters, and then makes recommendations, which ar provisional decisions that may or may not be confirmd by the actual practis of its supporters.

To enable these supporters and the public to apply the rules with convenience and certainty, the Board has publisht the recommended words in alfabetic order. The words of the first three

lists are printed in a combined Alfabetic List, Circular No. 23. The words of the Fourth List are mentioned under the rules therein contained, in alfabetic order. In due time, they will be printed in one alfabetic order with the preceding recommendations.

The addition of a new list does not make the matter more difficult. It enlarges the virtual spelling-book or vocabulary of simplified spellings which these lists provide. Any one can get these lists free. Any one can keep a list at his hand and refer to it frequently, or when he pleases. If he approves the idea, if he adopts the rule, the rest will come by applying the rule whenever it is thought of. Or if one's correspondence is large, and he has a stenographer, he can simply say 'follow that list,' and the thing is done. A few minutes' attention to the list, and frequent reference to it in the first two weeks, will lead any one to the routine use of the simplified forms, exactly as we have all been led to the routine use of the spellings *cat* and *dog*, *up* and *down*, *do* and *die*, by previous familiarity. Every true friend of reform must be willing to think several times in the course of two weeks.

This is the answer to the objection often made on the one hand by enthusiastic reformers who yearn for complete fonetic spelling, and on the other by hesitating reformers who wish to use simplified spellings, but are impatient of lists. It is not desirable that there should be no lists. A dictionary is simply a long list, and an ordinary list is simply a short dictionary. Railway time-tables, programs of concerts, catalogs of schools and colleges, rolls of literary, scientific, historical, patriotic, and social organizations, are lists or contain lists. The British empire and the American republic are founded upon lists — the army list, the navy list, the clergy list, the tax list and other black lists, the directory, the census, the rolls of parliament and congress. Everything and everybody — we've got them on our lists. And these lists are consulted when one is interested, and must find out a particular fact or name. Then the list retires. It does not have to be memorized.

And you do not have to memorize the lists published by the Simplified Spelling Board. There is no need to memorize them. They take the place of memory, supplying facts in the first place, and keeping them within sight beyond any chance of oblivion.

So the thing is easy enough. At any rate, it is not hard. A little exertion is necessary even in

reform. To do what is right is not always easy. To do what is reasonable is sometimes still harder. But it is not very hard to get a list, for nothing; to get another if you lose it; to keep it within reach or sight; to look at it occasionally, as one looks at a time-table; and to order one's orthographic tours by this orthographic time-table.

## PREJUDIS AND BARBARISM

A lawyer in Richmond, Kentucky, in signing the new card that went out with the Fourth List, quotes the following from Voltaire: "It is very difficult and more meritorious to win men from their prejudices than to civilize barbarians." And he asks what has been our "experience."

We think the statement to be true as to the difficulty, and we believe it to be true as to the merit of the persons who win men from their prejudices. But are the two things very different? When you persuade persons who are supposed to be educated, to give up an immense and bitter prejudice that is standing in the way of their intellectual growth, are you not civilizing barbarians? For men who are in that respectable state of civilization called barbarism, remain in that state chiefly because they hold fast to a great number of accumulated prejudices — unreasonable beliefs and crude ways. Intellectual civilization does not prevail until men willingly give up, for reasons, some of their unreasonable ways of thinking, speaking, and acting.

## BY A BODY POLITIC

A lady of Massachusetts, in renewing her subscription to the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, says in reference to the simplifications recommended: "While I can not promise to use any list except the first one, I wish to be on the side of reform. Also, I am glad to have necessary changes made by experts instead of lawless individual publishers."

This is a view expressed in one way or another by many other supporters of the simplification of English spelling; namely, that the recommendations for simplification should be framed by a competent and politic body of disinterested persons, and should rest upon the approval of a large body of supporters; and that proposed changes should be fully considered and examined by such a body, in order that no premature decision may be made, and that the direction and course of the reform may be clearly seen by those who may be disposed to join it.

## THE FITNESS OF FIT SPELLING

Mr. Henry Barrett Hinckley has published a poem, entitled "Thersites: A Dramatic Fragment" (Northampton, Massachusetts, the Nonotuck Press, 1913).

It is an attempt, we think successful, to present an ancient classical theme in the modern classical manner, but in an atmosphere improved by "medieval and twentieth century ideals." In its sustained dignity and simplicity it bears a favorable comparison with the classical poems of Landor and Stephen Phillips.

Mr. Hinckley, who has used simplified spelling in previous poems, has the acumen to perceive that modern poetry, whether concerned with ancient or with modern themes, must, for its own dignity and truth, conform to the modern sense of fitness, not only in ideas and in words, but in rhythm and in spelling. His preface ends with this appeal for fit spelling:

English spelling abounds in certain monstrosities which cannot be too quickly put out of the way, and I have come to the conclusion that it is the metrical writers who generally have led the way in this process of purification. Let those who doubt spend an hour in examining their Tennyson. If English versification is ever to approach the fine precision of the Greek the process must go much further. And of all offensive spellings *through* is the worst, partly because of the anomaly and partly because of the frequency of its occurrence. In an age whose poetry, of whatever quality, is likely to fall upon unheeding ears, this little volume may acquire some slight importance from having adopted the logical spelling, *thru*.

## THE VOICE OF A STENTOR

The *Stentor*, a paper published by the students of Lake Forest College, Illinois, contains, February 27, 1913, an article by Professor F. C. L. Van Steenderen, entitled: "Simplified Spelling: A Brief History of Its Development." It concludes:

Here are definite, tangible effects achieved within the last fifteen years by definite processes, under energetic, intelligent guidance. They lead, in the opinion of many thousands of the best Americans, in the direction of humaneness toward children and foreigners, and there are many millions of both; of reverence for consistency and the beauty of simplicity, and of just such justifiable pride in our language as a house in order or a clean body and mind will give.

An editorial in the same number, referring to the article mentioned, says (p. 166, col. 1):

It is interesting to note in this connection that the Faculty of Lake Forest College has recently declined to use, in its official publications, the revised spelling of 300 words as proposed by the Simplified Spelling Board of New York, in their circular known as No. 15. This action

is very significant and yet startling. Efficiency, implying speed, accuracy and economy, are being emphasized so strongly at present that when a step is taken against a revision which promises a higher efficiency in all circles, we should worry and take notice. What would not the revision mean to the linotype and typewriter? Think of the saving of time and money in a newspaper office.

Simplified Spelling is a movement in keeping with the growing enlightenment and directness of our age; and one which has already gained too much headway to be seriously interfered with by adverse decisions here and there. The day is coming when its use will prevail. Its development is filling a need, and its value will be recognized in the near future.

## A FRENDLY FRIEND

*The Friend*, a monthly published at Honolulu, which bears under its title the honorable addition, "The Oldest Newspaper West of the Rockies," is in favor of modernized spellings. In the number for April, 1913, we notice the spellings *program, tho, thru, enuf*. But this is not *enuf*. *The Friend* will, perhaps, go further, and spell *friend, definit, activ*, and the like.

A Hawaiian correspondent in the same number (p. 84) finds it necessary to explain to American readers and travelers that the name of the Hawaiian capital, *Honolulu*, is pronounced as it is spelled, Ho-no-lu-lu, and not Hōn-o-lu-lu. Referring to the phonetic alphabet adopted by early missionaries for the writing of 'native' languages, he says:

Those who gave to the Hawaiian people letters, were led to adopt the Southern European sounds for the five letters a, e, i, o, u, and the system was so phonetically adapted to the Hawaiian ear that the child in the Hawaiian schools of forty years ago did not spend one hour in learning to spell, but spelled every word of his own language correctly, and inevitably correct.

## THE INLAND EMPIRE

At the annual meeting of the Inland Empire Teachers Association, held in April at Spokane, Washington, President William T. Foster, of Reed College, Portland, Oregon, gave an address on "The Economics of Spelling Reform." There were two thousand teachers in attendance — *enuf* to supply an Inland Empire. And they adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That we recognize the need of the simplification of English spelling and advocate the appointment, from the members of this Association, of a standing committee of five on Simplified Spelling to consider the subject and report at the next meeting of the Association.

Mr. L. A. Alderman, the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Oregon, was elected President of the Association.

## PROMOTING EFFICIENCY

At a meeting of the Efficiency Society, May 27, at the Aldine Club, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York, Dr. Melvil Dewey made a speech on efficiency. He "advised business men to promote efficiency by employing short words and eliminating useless syllables." He said in part (we quote from the *New York Times*, May 28, 1913, but in more efficient spelling):

I sought the introduction of the metric system and simplified spelling in this cuntry to promote efficiency. In the offis as wel as in other lines the business man of today is demanding the best results. He has been attentiv to progress in mecanical appliances, but inattentiv to the things that increase the efficiency of human labor.

About 15 per cent. of the energy spent on a typeriting machine is wasted in your offises. Language is a machine for accomplishing results. It is ment to convey the thought of the riter to the mind of the reader, and the simplest way in which this can be done is the best way. We use needless words and false motions.

Business men should hav the courage and good sense to use 'buyer' in sted of 'purchasing agent'; 'many' in sted of 'a large number of'; 'invite' in sted of 'extend an invitation to'; 'appear' in sted of 'put in an appearance,' etc. Use the Arabic numerals in sted of spelling out numbers in dates. The man who has n't a fad is commonplace, so be cald a faddist for a time until it is proved that the fad is really common sense.

This is by no means all that Dr. Dewey said. No man has used more words and more sense to preach brevity and directness. And there is reason for that rap at the "commonplace" man, who refuses to entertain new ideas, or is afraid to let them be known. Beyond dout every commonplace man is opposed to rational spelling — not because it is rational, but because it is not commonplace.

## LOGIC NIPT IN THE BUD

The Richmond (Va.) *Times-Dispatch* printed an editorial under the hed "Girls Are Better Spellers." It tels the results of experiments in spelling from which it appeard that some girls made fewer mistakes in spelling than some boys. Thereupon the editor drew this conclusion: "The important point of this investigation is the need of better spelling by boys."

Mr. Albon P. Man, Jr., in a letter printed in the *Times-Dispatch*, May 19, 1913, makes a pertinent and convincing anser. He says:

Now, I believe the important point of this investigation to be the need for better spelling *for* boys, and for girls, and for future generations. The fact that college freshmen fail to spell conventionally one word out of every such thirteen, shows that there is something the matter with the conventional spelling of those words. These errors in orthography constitute a solemn plea for ortho-

graphic reform. Those college fellows possess so far a degree of natural reason that they can not swallow whole such absurd combinations as the catch-words of the English language.

When students through the high school have to submit to spelling tests and miss a thirteenth of the words let us inquire how it is with the little school children. In the primary grades children strive to reason out things, but they find their efforts to reason out the spelling of every-day words blocked by many exceptions. At the outset the little child is discouraged from using his reasoning faculty. The child's logic is nipped in the bud.

The riter next quotes a suggested remedy, that the boys be implored to amend their poor spelling "on the ground of personal pride," and aners:

But they have nothing to be ashamed of. Spelling is no criterion of intellect. Ability to spell will be a test of intellectual power when, and not before, our spelling is made logical. But now our catch-words are pitfalls for sensible persons; while dull persons can commit them to memory — and use up time so doing.

Quoting Noah Webster and Alexander J. Ellis, Mr. Man concludes:

No, the spellings are at fault and not the students. The truth of this assertion is realized by the leaders in language and literature of the English-speaking world. The writers of our dictionaries, the professors in our colleges, are themselves leading the movement for reform of English spelling. Those who ought to know say the reform is sure to come.

## THE SHORT vs. THE LONG RUN

The *Herald* of Toronto, which is "devoted to pronunciation and amended spelling," says (Jan.-Mar., 1913):

A correspondent with brains says: "The SSS proposals ad littl tu our difficulties. May they remuve some of these by shoing the British (as wel as American) public that the problem's solution must be scientific, not what is calld 'practical,' — that is, according tu *existing* ideas of the larger (but les informd) part of that part of the educated public that favors the general idea of reform. Of course, in the long run, the scientific solution will be adopted; but it is incumbent on us tu shorten that 'long run,' if we can.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The folloing gentlemen hav been elected members of the Advisory Council:

JOSEPH BOWDEN, Ph.D., Professor of Mathematics in Adelphi College, Brooklyn, New York, and one of the founders of the Brooklyn Spelling Reform Society.

THOMAS K. BROWN, Jr., A.M., Instructor in German in Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania.

## THE FORWARD LOOK

The *Journal of Education* of Nova Scotia, "published by order of the Legislature of Nova Scotia," reprints in the number for April 1913 (pp. 30-45) the entire "Fourth List of Simplified Spellings recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board" (Circular No. 26). This reprint forms the first in a series of readable articles: The Prevention of Tuberculosis; Educational Opinion; Secondary Education in England; The Bankruptcy of Secondary Education; How to Save the Classics; Ohio's Largest Consolidated School; and so on.

In matter and in print this *Journal of Education* is better than most educational periodicals. It is readable. Can it be that the main cause is the forward look of the educational authorities of Nova Scotia, and their willingness to admit new ideas? How many "leading educational journals" in the United States are really leading in any public matter?

## UNANIMUS ORIGINALITY

The Fourth List, which was published March 24, was followed by much notice and comment in the newspapers. Some of the comment was intelligent, and therefore more or less favorable. The amount of merely flippant comment was, of course, very great; but the total amount of flippancy was distinctly less than that encountered by the recommendations of the Board several years ago. And many of the newspapers this time did their duty by printing the news. They printed a large part of the introduction to the list, and many of them gave examples of the simplifications recommended. Only a few papers thought it worth while to invent "changes" which they ascribed to the Board. The use of open mendacity in opposing the simplification of English spelling is slowly proving to be ineffectual.

Besides the reports of the recommendations as a matter of news, there were many original editorials. By a singular coincidence a great many of these original editorials, when adverse to simplified spelling, appeared in exactly the same words, save where occasionally a few words were slightly altered in order to make the editorials still more original. For example, an original editorial article entitled "Simplified Spelling," and beginning "The editor having read the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board," etc., and continuing in the second paragraph with "the editor was amazed," etc., has appeared in the following newspapers and others:

*Salinas Democrat*, Salinas, Cal., March 29; *Herald*, North Adams, Mass., April 1; *Free Press*, Easton, Penn., April 2; *News*, Rutland, Vt., April 2; *Enterprise*, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., April 3; *Mirror*, Manchester, N. H., April 3; *Pioneer-Times*, Deadwood, S. D., April 3; *American*, Lawrence, Mass., April 4; *Report*, Lebanon, Penn., April 4; *Times*, Racine, Wis., April 4; *By-Stander*, Macomb, Ill., April 5; *Herald*, Portsmouth, N. H., April 5; *Sun*, Gainesville, Fla., April 5; *Sun*, Lawrence, Mass., April 5; *News*, Yonkers, N. Y., April 7; *Times*, Beverly, Mass., April 7; *Exponent*, Clarksburg, W. Va., April 8; *Herald*, Denison, Tex., April 8; *Journal*, Milford, Mass., April 8; *News-Miner*, Hailey, Idaho, April 8; *Register*, Santa Anna, Cal., April 8; *Messenger*, Somerville, N. J., April 9; *News*, Cadillac, Mich., April 9; *Post*, Hartford, Conn., April 9; *Herald*, Tama, Iowa, April 10; *Independent*, Santa Barbara, Cal., April 10; *Eagle-Star*, Marinette, Wis., April 14; *Journal*, Martinsburg, W. Va., April 15; *Gazette*, High Bridge, N. J., April 17; *Free Press*, Waverly, N. Y., April 18.

Thirty independent editors, with thirty independent opinions, all just alike! This may help to explain the "widespread hostility of the press."

## "GIV THE BOARD A CHANCE"

Thomas K. Brown, jr., instructor in Haverford College, had in the *Public Ledger*, of Philadelphia, April 20, 1913, a plea for reason in the consideration of the movement for the simplification of English spelling. After setting forth the case, and reviewing the efforts that the Simplified Spelling Board has made against great obstacles, the letter concludes:

Giv the Board a chance. They are wise men — they have at their back a tremendous number, tho not yet all, of the scholars and teachers of the country, and they are laboring carefully and scientifically. And thru them giv the children a chance. We shall not be depriving them of a blessed privilege nor injure their birthright to the good English language if we teach it to them in simple dress. We shall be relieving them of a great burden under which we struggled, giving them the benefit of our broadened vision, making them in one more respect the heirs of the ages.

## SNAIX IN JAPAN

The *Pioneer*, for April, quotes from the *Church Abroad*, for March, this fragment: "Wuns a Japanese gurl sed to me, 'Thair are tuu things in the world that I hait: thai are snaics and English speling; but *English speling is wurs than snaics.*'" And again: "The egzaminaishon that aul Japanese children are moest afraid of is the English langwij egzaminaishon." The editor adds: "The snaics of speling are thair." You may break, you may shatter the spel if you wil, but the trail of the serpent is over it still.

## A COMPLETE VOCABULARY

The demand for a vocabulary of simplified spellings, containing all the simplified forms in alphabetic order, is reasonable. But it has been made by many persons who somehow do not see that the demand has been met, hitherto, in the Circular No. 23 of the Simplified Spelling Board, which is, as its title states, "An Alphabetic List of Simplifications in Spelling Recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board up to January 25, 1909". That list has been widely circulated for more than three years, and has been used by many thousand persons as a guide in spelling the words included. And now is added the Fourth List.

If the demand is for a vocabulary of all the words in the English language, or all that would be included in a dictionary of moderate size, *and all these in simplified spelling*, it is a different demand, which can not be met now by any board or society, because no considerable number of men having any influence or any common purpose, or means to make that purpose known, have as yet come to any agreement upon the simplification of a great number of English words that obviously need simplification. A vocabulary of *all* the common words in the English language in simplified spelling, must include, for example, such words as *bought, brought, ought, thought, etc.; eat, feat, meet, peak, pique, etc.; fight, night, height, sight, aisle, gneiss, etc.; eight, weight, bait, bate, great, way, whey, etc.; now, howl, bout, drought, etc.; social, official, palatial, occasion, nation, ambition, suspicion, condition, notion, ocean, new, hew, hue, view, move, prove, groove, rule, rude, rood, group, baste, spaced, danced*, and so on, each in a simplified spelling — and *what?* There is a great number of groups of words which still present irregularities that must be removed, or at least greatly reduced, before any thing like a simplified vocabulary of English spelling can be made; and this simplification of the English vocabulary must be made in such a manner that it will be acceptable at once to a considerable part of the educated public.

Let any one who wishes to make the experiment, write down simplified forms of ten or twenty of the words that have been mentioned, or other words in the same variety. Let him select, according to his knowledge and judgment at the time, the simplified forms that *he would recommend for universal use*, and then let him consider whether any of his own friends, or students, or employees, or men in his own profession, or other

persons presumably open to some influence from him, would simplify these forms *in the same way*, or would even accept *any* simplifications of the words selected.

It would indeed be of some use to publish a complete vocabulary of English words in simplified forms recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board or its Executive Committee. This would prepare the way for the desired complete vocabulary. But the process would be expensive, and for the Board, which has only limited means at its disposal, it might mean an expense without return in increased support or public favor.

Accordingly, it appears necessary that the publication of a vocabulary of simplified spellings that will be likely to meet with acceptance among even the most advanced supporters of the Board must be postponed. But as soon as it appears that there is a sufficient body of supporters of the general cause who will actually put into use, in business correspondence, or in print, or in teaching, the entire vocabulary of simplified spellings, the Board will print the vocabulary, and consider the trouble and expense well repaid.

## A SIMPLE X SAMPLE

A correspondent in Milwaukee writes:

I want to tell you about some simplified spelling which I saw here in Milwaukee. It was simplified spelling in the extreme. I past a grocery, in front of which was a board on which was written

X  
27 cents  
a dozen.

This does not seem so far-fetched when one considers that there are many here who pronounce 'eggs' precisely as they pronounce the letter *x*.

In Milwaukee there are many Germans and many Swedes and Norwegians, who would readily take X on these 10 terms. In New York the sign would be:

*EGGS 36 cents a dozen*

The superior economy of the Milwaukee style will be acknowledged by every housewife.

## MANY USE

Mr. D. W. Davenport, of the Pine Island Public School, Pine Island, Minn., writes (April 12): "I notice that there is a gradual drift in the direction of simplified spelling here, in actual use. Many use but hesitate to sign."

This is well. Better use and "hesitate to sign," than sign and hesitate to use. To use is to do; and to do is greater than to say, or to sign, or to sing; though all these are good.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

A reader of the *Independent* wrote to the editor approving the article which we quote on p. 6, and recommending the omission of "all letters that are absolutely useless from any point of view." In illustration he crossed out from the article in question (itself somewhat reduced by some simplified spelling) 78 more letters that could be omitted. A revision of his work makes the number 115, and this not counting the very many digraphs and combinations which, under any reasonable regulation, would be reduced to single letters. To omit 115 letters in an article of 103 lines would seem to be worth while.

The Bowman-Blackman Machine Tool Company of Saint Louis, Mo., sends out with its letters a card containing these words: "We have adopted the official list of new spellings issued by the Simplified Spelling Board, No. 1 Madison Avenue, New York. . . We find these spellings, once the newness is over, natural and pleasant, as well as rapid."

The Philadelphia (Pa.) *Star*, May 23, referring to the movement for the reform of spelling, and associating it with the somewhat less extensive proposal to reform the nautical words 'starboard' and 'port' into 'right' and 'left', looks forward with apprehension to other reforms, and concludes with the exclamation, "For the Lord's sake, let's stop before we 'reform' ourselves out of existence!" Why?

A correspondent writes that in the library of the University of Chicago he "saw *thru* in the printed rules posted on the wall, and a student assistant said it was customary there. Also in a moving picture show I saw *thru* in an explanation thrown on the screen."

## "N-E-W-S"

The Chicago *American*, April 11, printed a letter from a lady who is designated "editor of the *Business Woman's Magazine*." She sounds a warning against spelling reform and its advocates, thus:

But is there not danger, in spite of our passive opposition to-day, that to-morrow we may have become tainted also by the insidious influence of spelling reform and the integrity of our language hopelessly assailed?

And then with the instinct of such writers for displaying their remarkable knowledge of the English language, its history and its literature, she ends with a new rendering of a crazy "etymology":

In the distant past, when English husbands and sweethearts spent much time on the high seas fighting other nations, the women folk at home often asked each other, "What have you heard from the North, from the East, the West, South?" And by and by the question resolved itself into, "What's the news?"

She concludes with this lament:

It is the sacred link with the past the unspeakable spelling reformer would sever. What shall we do with him?

Why not tell him some news? He has heard this sort of thing a thousand times.

## SIGNERS AND THEIR OCCUPATIONS

Upon the publication of the Fourth List, the cards containing the signatures of Signers renewing their promise to use the simplifications recommended by the Board began to come in with such a rush that it was impossible to classify them, and at the same time to attend to the greatly increased correspondence stimulated by the appearance of the new circular. The classification has now been begun, and at the time of going to press has been carried through the first 2,700 promise cards received. The results, so far, are interesting and instructive in the light of the figures thrown on the degree of indicated intelligence and culture of those in favor of reform in English spelling. The figures follow:

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES: Presidents, 7; Regents, 1; Deans, 6; Professors, 140; Instructors, 55; Janitor, 1. TOTAL, 210.

SCHOOLS: Members and Officers of Boards of Education, 5; Superintendents, 63; Principals, 62; Supervisors, 9; Teachers, 452. TOTAL, 591.

STUDENTS, 248.

TOTAL OF THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING, 1,049.

PROFESSIONS: Clergymen, 130; Physicians, 115; Scientists, 79; Engineers, 73; Lawyers, 63; Librarians, 28; Editors, 27; Authors, 24; Officers of the Army and Navy, 17; Designers and Draftsmen, 17; Dentists, 13; Musicians, 12; Architects, 8; Artists, 7; Lecturers, 7; Y.M.C.A. Secretaries, 7; Journalists, 6; Photographers, 3; Nurses, 3; Curators, 2; Inventors, 1; Translators, 1; Actors, 1; Suffragettes, 1. TOTAL, 645.

BUSINESS AND TRANSPORTATION, 639.

AGRICULTURISTS, 96.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, 58.

HOUSEWIVES, 42.

RETIRED, 32.

OCCUPATION NOT GIVEN, 139.

It thus appears that of out of 2700 persons who renew their approval of amended spelling 1619 are directly connected with the professions that presuppose or require special education or training of a literary or scientific kind.

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## A NORTH CENTRAL TOUR

Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, the editor of the *SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN*, made a tour of the North Central states, June 11-28, in the interest of the Board. The main purpose of this tour was to consult the members of the North Central Branch as to the plans which that Branch was organized to carry out. But Mr. Paine was also instructed to consult other men, to ascertain the state of opinion and expectation in different communities, and to obtain and to make suggestions for carrying on an active campaign suited to local conditions.

On this mission, he visited in turn the following places and institutions:

CLEVELAND, O., Western Reserve University; ANN ARBOR, Mich., University of Michigan; YPSILANTI, Mich., Michigan State Normal College; EVANSTON, Ill., Northwestern University; CHICAGO, Ill., University of Chicago; NORMAL, Ill., Illinois State Normal University; URBANA, Ill., University of Illinois; ROCK ISLAND, Ill., Augustana College; COLUMBIA, Mo., University of Missouri; KIRKSVILLE, Mo., First District Normal School; CEDAR FALLS, Ia., Iowa State Teachers College.

Mr. Paine's conclusions from his interviews and observations have been set forth in a report upon which the Executive Committee may be expected to take action in the near future.

Wherever he went, Mr. Paine found men who were doing what they could, so far as their other interests permitted, for simplified spelling, and who were ready to do more. He noted a general prudence. If any have an excess of zeal, some have an abundance of caution. The men seen nearly all reported a strong and growing sentiment among the university and school men in their respective states in favor of simplified spelling.

At Kirksville, Mo., and Cedar Falls, Ia., Mr. Paine, on invitation, addressed the faculties and students of the two great normal schools there situated—two thousand five hundred persons in all.

## AN ENLIGHTENED NEWSPAPER

The *Chicago Evening Post* has joined the ranks of simple spellers. In its issue of June 9, the *Post* began a series of six articles, continued on June 10, 12, 13, 16, and 17, in which it came out strongly for a rational, progressive simplification of English spelling; gave a history of the movement; set forth the arguments in its favor; and answered the stock objections thereto. With this preliminary exposition of its principles in regard to English spelling, it printed, on June 17, an editorial announcing that, on the following day, it would adopt for its own use the simplified forms of the "famous Twelve Words," as the beginning of a gradual adoption of the practice of simplified spelling in its columns. The editor said: "This step commits the *Evening Post* to the cause of simplified spelling"; and added: "To go even a step in the direction of a simpler and more rational spelling is to forsake the senseless worship of 'authority' and to cast one's lot with the best scholarship of the country in the slow but deliberate reform of English spelling."

On June 18, accordingly, the *Post* began the use of the Twelve Words, and it is now carrying a weekly department on simplified spelling, conducted by Mr. E. O. Vaile.

The *Evening Post's* editorial of June 17 was copied by many newspapers, either with no comment, or with a few words showing a kind of friendly indifference. The Louisville (Ky.) *Herald* followed the *Post's* example, on June 24. Several other newspapers under the same control are expected to do the same.

## THRU THE MIDDLE WEST

Professor George H. Danton, of Butler College, Indianapolis, Ind., made, this summer, on behalf of the Simplified Spelling Board, an other tour of observation and inquiry in the states of the Middle West and South. From June 21 to August 11 he visited in succession the following places and institutions:

LAWRENCE, Kan., University of Kansas; TOPEKA, Kan., Washburn College; EMPORIA, Kan., State Normal School; DENVER, Colo.; BOULDER, Colo., University of Colorado; GREELEY, Colo., State Teachers College; SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, University of Utah, and the National Education Association in annual meeting; SANTA FE, N. Mex.; EAST LAS VEGAS, N. Mex., New Mexico Normal University; ALBUQUERQUE, N. Mex., University of New Mexico; NORMAN, Okla., University of Oklahoma; EDMOND, Okla., Central State Normal School; WICHITA, Kan., Fairmount College, and Friends University; EMPORIA, Kan., Emporia College; NASHVILLE, Tenn., Vanderbilt University, and Peabody College for Teachers; KNOXVILLE, Tenn., University of Tennessee; CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., University of Virginia; BALTIMORE, Md., Johns Hopkins University; LUTHERVILLE, Md., Maryland College for Women; ANNAPOLIS, Md., St. John's College; WESTMINSTER, Md., Western Maryland College.

In the institutions named he visited, as far as possible, the officers and principal professors, and in the towns many newspaper editors and persons of prominence. By invitation he made addresses at Lawrence, Kan., June 25; East Las Vegas, N. Mex., July 13; Norman, Okla., July 18; Edmond, Okla., July 20; Wichita, Kan., July 23; Emporia, Kan., July 24; Knoxville, Tenn., July 29; Charlottesville, Va., July 31.

The results of his tour were stated in a full report to the Executive Committee, in which the attitude of the different persons interviewed was stated, and information was given that will be useful for the promotion of the cause in the places visited. In some places there was on the part of specified professors, sometimes even professors of English, a strong hostility to the movement for the regulation of English spelling; but, on the whole, the attitude of the professors interviewed was that of friendly openmindedness. Many are privately strong, some are publicly enthusiastic, for the proposed reform; and some have agreed to conduct a local propaganda in

their institution or in their community, in cooperation with the Board.

In most institutions the chances of action depend on 'the powers that be.' Often 'the powers that be' are a single power—sometimes the president, sometimes a dominant professor, whose attitude, if adverse to simplified spelling, is accepted as settling the policy of the institution, until the powers that be become the powers that were. In that case the policy of the institution will presumably follow, as before, the opinion of the new incumbent, if that is adverse. If the opinion is favorable, some forward action may be taken.

Some institutions of learning have learned the great educational lesson that while two, or even more, opinions may be privately tolerated in a university or college, only one of them should be uttered. And that opinion should be uttered by the president. This Mohammedan principle saves a great deal of wear and tear of intellect.

## THE WICHITA COMMITTEE

The Wichita Committee on Simplified Spelling, which we mentioned in the last number of the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, June 1913, page 5, has been in correspondence with many teachers and school officials in the State, and has promoted the cause at various public meetings, one of which was addressed by Professor George H. Danton at Wichita, July 24. Its work has attracted much attention from the newspapers of Kansas; and reports have been sent to newspapers throughout the country, giving a favorable view of the progress thus far made, and mentioning the expectation that some degree of simplified spelling will be adopted by the State School Text-book Commission. This remains to be seen.

It is probable, in view of the work of the Wichita Committee and of the character of the men who are concerned, that some forward action will be taken. The whole matter will be fully presented this year and the next year to the educated public of Kansas.

The school situation in Kansas is unsettled and uncertain; and recent changes of policy and administration open wide the way for new things. Kansas, indeed, has never been backward about taking up new ideas. If it takes up simplified spelling, there will be the usual chance for it to 'sweep the prairies.' The prairies are there, at any rate.

## ILLINOIS COLLEGES

Prof. C. L. Esbjorn, of Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., made, on behalf of the Simplified Spelling Board, a tour of the minor colleges of Illinois, beginning July 9 and ending July 26. He visited the following institutions:

William and Vashti College, Aledo, July 9; Monmouth College, Monmouth, July 9; Knox College, and Lombard College, Galesburg, July 10; Hedding College, Abingdon, July 10; Carthage College, Carthage, July 11; St. Francis Solanus College, Quincy, July 11; Illinois College, and Illinois Woman's College, Jacksonville, July 12; Blackburn College, Carlinville, July 12; Greenville College, Greenville, July 14; Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, July 14; McKendree College, Lebanon, July 15; James Millikin University, Decatur, July 15; Lincoln College, Lincoln, July 16; Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, July 16-17; Eureka College, Eureka, July 17; Loyola University (St. Ignatius College), Chicago, July 18; Wheaton College, Wheaton, July 21; Northwestern College, Naperville, July 21; Aurora College, Aurora, July 21; Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, July 22; St. Viator's College, Kankakee, July 22; St. Vincent de Paul University, Chicago, July 22; Rockford Woman's College, Rockford, July 25.

In each place, so far as possible, he consulted the president, professors, and other officers who were present; stated the facts about the Simplified Spelling Board, and the movement which it is conducting; endeavored to remove erroneous impressions derived from erroneous statements in the newspapers and from other sources, and otherwise to supplement information which these persons have received. One object was to encourage the officers of these colleges to consider the proposal now before them, that they should adopt a certain amount of simplified spelling, if two-thirds of the colleges in the Federation of Colleges should so agree. Some colleges have made the agreement without conditions. In most of the colleges visited, the president or some leading professor promised to bring up the proposal and to support it.

Professor Esbjorn reports very little active opposition. But the passive opposition that desires to avoid action, and to suppress discussion, is a serious obstacle, which only patient effort can diminish and overcome. Intellectual opposition may be met, answered, and perhaps overcome, to the ultimate satisfaction of both parties. But stolid passiveness, dull inertness—

these are formidable obstacles. In the one case it is like fighting a vigorous man—a foman worthy of one's steel; in the other case it is like firing at silent earthworks—each shot may make an impression, but it is an impression on dull earth.

## IN ADVANST SPELLING

Dr. Henry Leffmann of Philadelphia, the well-known chemist, has just published a book, "The States-Rights Fetish: A Plea for Real Nationalism." It is a protest against the "Jeffersonian theories" of state sovereignty, and a declaration in favor of an energetic national government, which would put in operation "uniform laws as to hours of labor, labor of women and children, conditions of marriage and divorce, methods of transfer of property, collection of debts and taxation of incomes, inheritances and businesses."

The book is printed in advanced spelling according to the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board. This is another instance in which a man of public reputation has found it agreeable to his own sense of fitness, to publish his books in improved spelling, without proclamation or apology.

## BOLD, BUT SHRINKING

The English Woolen Mills Company of Cleveland and other cities, in its "Book of Men's Fashions, 1913, Spring and Summer," uses many simplified spellings; for example: *Discust*, *matcht*, *mist*, *mixt*, *strapt*, *authoritativ*, *comprehensiv*, *distinctiv*, *expensiv*, *representativ*, *responsiv*, and of course, *altho*, *tho*, *thoro*, *thru*.

Incidentally, the book contains other pieces of information. Like this: "Most tailors shrink by laying between wet cloths—not near so good as our way." We ourselves have always shrunk from this process. "All 'cheap tailors' shrink (if at all) by steam." This shows great energy, but some would fain die a dry death.

## THE SOUL OF LANGUAGE

In our studies of language, we have too much neglected the constitution of its medium—sound. If language is but insouated thought, yet it is insouated, and the nature of this body must be far more accurately studied than hitherto, if we would understand the indications of its soul.—1875 ELLIS. On Early English Pronunciation, pt. 4, p. 1244.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Henry Gallup Paine, Editor; No. 1 Madison avenue.  
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## "CORAL INSECTS" IN BOSTON

The Boston *Advertiser*, May 24, 1913, under the heading "Not So Fast," says:

Some few publications have adopted the first set of rules put forth by the simplified spellers. It is easy to tell which publications these are because once in a while one finds the word "thru." There are probably other words which are spelled differently in such periodicals, but they do not stick out with the prominence which the word named has.

Then, after further remarks, the writer continues:

This is not fast enough for the simplified spellers. They seem to want a revolution rather than an evolution and have begun to abuse those who do not follow them in their new and strange ways. A certain periodical of otherwise excellent balance and reputation has given way to peevishness in regard to those who do not spell as the edict of the simplifiers would have them.

It is too bad that any periodical should become peevish; but we should like to see that "edict." We have heard of it often, and seen it never.

Then the Boston paper begins to be instructive: "Probably the simplified spellers do not know as much about the building of a coral reef as it would be good for them to know." It then tells us that "while a coral reef is constructed continuously, it is constructed very slowly," and draws the just conclusion that the same process should be taken by human beings as a rule in guiding their own actions. A coral reef, the Boston paper tells us, is not hasty: "It does not spring up from the bottom of the ocean in one night. It grows, although it is built by tiny insects of the sea." It is certain that the "simplified spellers" did not know this. Indeed, it is known only in Boston that coral reefs are built by "tiny insects." We have always supposed that the "insects" were quite large, with formidable antennae, with which they caught their finny prey; and with the usual mandibles,

martingales, and monocles which complete an insect's outfit.

Further information on orthography and coral insects may be obtained by applying to any newspaper which thinks and writes in this particular Boston manner.

But at bottom the Boston entomologist is right. He says: "As for the spelling, that will change, as it has changed, and it will change toward the standard desired by the spelling reformers, but they must be patient." Let us therefore suspend all other work, and teach the newspapers of Boston to spell *through* THRU. Then, after that is done, say twenty years hence, we can give the second lesson, THO; and then later, the third lesson, DROPT. And in this manner, the judicious manner of those "coral insects," we may gradually bring Boston newspapers to the point in English orthography that was attained by Shakespeare and Milton in the 17th century, and is, indeed, familiar, in an easy and sporadic manner, to 'every schoolboy.'

## A DREDFUL DILEMMA

Dr. Robert Bridges, an English scholar who is also a poet, and is now the poet laureate of Great Britain, has some opinions in regard to the writing of English verse, and the principles which underlie English poetry. In the course of his studies, Dr. Bridges formed the extraordinary opinion that verse is meant to be uttered, at least sometimes, and that it would be well so to write the verse that the intended utterance can be made known. As this would involve an intelligible and sure indication of the actual sounds and stresses—a genuine notation of English speech—it might have been expected that Dr. Bridges, like some other literary men, would shrink appalled from the vision. But he went bravely forward, and in a recent little work, "A Tract on the Present State of English Pronunciation," he expresses the view that in order to preserve and to teach a preferred pronunciation of English, we must use some means of indicating pronunciation—that is, use a more or less simplified, or a more or less phonetic, spelling. As he puts it, "we must either give up the attempt to preserve a preferred English pronunciation, or we must give up our opposition to a regulation of English spelling."

The writer of a review of Dr. Bridges' book in the London *Times Literary Supplement*, June 27, 1913, almost confesses that to this dreadful choice we must come at last:

And here we come to the grievous part of the whole matter, the dreadful dilemma facing those who wish to preserve our language from decay. There is a bitter dose for us to swallow sooner or later, and Mr. Bridges holds up to us with grim face the execrable cup. There is a remedy, he tells us, but only one:—and now the secret must out and the joyless words “phonetic spelling,” which have haunted us from the beginning of our task, must at last be spoken. For educational purposes at least, if for no other, we must spell, he says, as we wish to pronounce; for thus, and thus only, can correct pronunciation be taught in schools, and by this means alone can we preserve the inherited sounds of our language. With the dismal choice squarely before us, either to preserve the sounds of English or its obsolete and fantastic spelling, it is our duty, he is convinced, to choose the sound and let the spelling go.

“Sooner or later” that “bitter dose.” That is, some day Englishmen and Americans must admit the notion that the spelling of a language should be used to indicate its pronunciation. It is true that this has been the notion in the spelling of all languages that have any spelling at all, including English itself until about the middle of the 18th century. But our great literary “authorities,” the advertised giants of our current literature, the Jupiters of journalism, the editors of the *London Times*, the *Athenæum*, the *Spectator*, the *Saturday Review*, the *New York Nation*, the *New York Tribune*, the *New York Herald*, the *Dial* and the *Bellman*, do not know this fact; and therefore, the fact does not exist. To them, the infinite space of the English language is bounded in a nutshell. It does not matter that the men of learning, the men of science, the persons who are acquainted with the history of the English language, all hold the other view. We must wait until the editors of the *London*, *Liverpool*, *Ramsgate*, *New York*, *Boston* and *Hoboken* newspapers concur with scholarship and science. How long shall we have to wait?

### “CHOCQUED”

There are some persons who profess to be shocked to find the word *shockt* so spelled. They would not be shocked to see the word spelled *shocked*, though that really spells, and was at first intended to spell, *shock-ed*.

But there was a time when readers of this kind would have been shocked to see the word spelled with *sh*. The poet Cowley in his note to “The second Olympique Ode of Pindar,” as printed in his “Works,” 1672, part [3], page 1, says: “And the Reader must not be *chocqued* to hear him speak so often of his own Muse.”

And the readers who were not shocked at that spelling, but liked it, were, perhaps, shocked in

1681, when, in the edition of Cowley’s works printed in that year, the word in this passage was spelled *choqued*.

All this is shocking enough; and we are afraid that, now we have disclosed these literary facts, the same persons who prefer to spell the word *check* *cheque* will prefer to spell *shock* *choque*.

### A CHILD’S PUZZLE

The Yonkers (N. Y.) *Daily News*, May 8, 1913, in an article about “The Spelling Book,” wound up as follows:

The trouble is not so much with the long words that you have to look up in the dictionary anyway. It is with the little tricky short words, the ever puzzling questions like whether it is “ei” or “ie.”

Did it ever occur to you to ask why the puzzling question “whether it is ‘ei’ or ‘ie,’” should remain for ever a puzzle? Why not join with us in the effort to settle this question, and to put an end to these tricks and puzzles? What is the use of maintaining for ever, at untold expense of time, work and money, distinctions that have no meaning and no value?

### ON PRINCIPLE

Dr. Robert Huntington Fletcher, Professor of English Literature in Grinnell College, Iowa, has just published two works of instruction in English literature, namely (1) “Tennyson and Browning: A Manual for College Classes and Other Students,” and (2) “A Brief Shakspearean Glossary, Grammar, and Booklet of Other Information Necessary to Students.” In these works Dr. Fletcher uses a considerable number of simplified spellings. In the preface to the second work he says: “In quotations from Shakspeare I have printed *-ed* or *-d* in each case according to the testimony of the meter (generally *-d* in prose passages), not according to the ‘humour’ of the Elizabethan compositor. Otherwise I have not, of course, tampered with the Elizabethan spelling; but in my own composition I have used a very moderate number of simplified spellings. The use is on principle; the moderation in submission to the gradual nature of all progress.”

In the preface of the first-named work he says: “I make no apology for my very moderate practice of simplified spelling. I hold that intelligent people have too long and too tamely submitted to sin in this regard.”

When scholars and men of letters set such an example, others may follow with intellectual and personal satisfaction.

## A NEW S. S. S. LEAFLET

The Simplified Spelling Society has issued a new leaflet giving, in a neat form, in two colors, red and black, and in ordinary spelling, the sum and substance of 'Simplified Spelling.' The vowel sounds are given as represented by single letters and digraphs. We quote the five rules, omitting the examples:

The same sound is always represented by the same letter or letters.

The digraphs *ee*, *ie*, *oe*, *uu*, may be reduced before another vowel.

Letters not pronounced are not written, and a consonant is not doubled to indicate a short vowel.

Wherever the *z* sound (as distinguished from the *s*) is heard it is written.

*C* always has the hard sound, as in cat.

This paragraph follows:

In considering the scheme remember that no new letters are introduced, though in English we have only 23 letters for representing over 40 sounds.

On the other side of the leaf are six quotations, of which we quote the first and the last:

In the interests of etymology we ought to spell as we pronounce. To spell words as they used to be pronounced is not etymological, but antiquarian. — W. W. SKEAT.

My quarry is not the literate, but the illiterate. The literate can fend for themselves. The illiterate, born daily into the world, are those for whom I work, and for whom I now ask your work also. — A. J. ELLIS.

## A RELATIV INDEX OF PROGRESS

The 8th edition of Dr. Melvil Dewey's "Decimal Classification and Relativ Index" has been published. It is a large, handsomely bound volume. It has two signal merits. It presents an admirable classification of books, and of the subjects with which they deal, in a full form, adequate both in the main subjects and in the subdivisions, with ample notes and other information, all presented to the eye with great clearness of type and print; and secondly, it is printed in simplified spelling, to an extent which no other work of library classification or of library management (other than Dr. Dewey's own) has attained. The attitude of the publishers is expressed in the following note, which is printed on the page following the title-page:

### SPELLING

The simplified spellings used are strongly recommended for general adoption by both the American and English Philological Associations, including nearly all prominent scholars in English now living. The publishers regret the prejudice that certain readers will feel against these changes, but after careful study of all the objections urged against them, they find the weight of scholarship and reason wholly in their favor, and feel compelled to bear a

share of the prejudice which some must endure before the great benefits of a rational orthography can be secured.

Full information on request from the Simplified Spelling Board, 1 Madison av., New York.

This work shows how much an advocate of simplified spelling can do for the cause he advocates, if he will only accept his own recommendations in his own books. It is well for a simplifier of spelling to use simplified spelling in discussing the subject itself. It is still better to use it as a normal thing in a substantial book on another subject. In this case, the book is one of great importance to all librarians. It will be used, as the preceding editions have been used, by a great number of the best libraries in the world, as a daily manual; and it will prove to thousands of librarians and consultants of libraries that simplified spelling, judiciously used, does not in any way detract from use or beauty, in any educational or library work. The book is published by the Forest Press, Lake Placid Club, Essex Co., New York, and may be had of the Library Bureau, 316 Broadway, New York.

## DODGING THE AVALANCHE

The London *Academy*, which is supposed to be devoted to English literature, announces (April 26, 1913) that it has "the frown and the growl of disapproval" for spellings like *harty*, *emif* and *cof*, and it asserts that "the risibility of the ordinary man for whom English is a pleasant and comprehensible language" is "raised" by spellings like *eco*, *casm*, *corus*. What reason has the editor of the *Academy* to suppose that the English language is "comprehensible"? Who told him?

The editor, after exposing his stock of information, asks those who think otherwise, that they "will kindly refrain from a fresh avalanche of correspondence on the subject." It is a good way to avoid information.

## A GRAND PAGENT

The people of New Rochelle, N. Y., celebrated the 225th anniversary of that city on Saturday, June 23, 1913. They had, according to an official announcement displayed in cars throughout the county, a "Grand Water Pagent — Landing of the Huguenots." And the "pagent" took place in that spelling, as well as in the other spelling "pageant." *Pagent* is indeed the correct historical spelling of the word in question, which is not entitled to the *ea* that appears in the apparently similar word *sergeant*.

In these historical pagents that are rife in England and America, it is indeed a good notion

to exhibit some historical and correct spellings, if only to hav some of the historical representations correct.

### "VERMIFORM AND WRIGGLING"

The *Daily Citizen* (London, Eng.,) of May 11, 1913, has an article entitled "Why Not Spel Sientifikali?" and signed "A. W." After counting four difficulties, the riter concludes:

But if the difficulties to be overcome were not four, but twenty-four, our present chaotic spelling would be cheaply bought out at the price. Think of the poor foreigner who would be on frendly terms with us, but hates us because we trip him up in writing and in speech. Think of the strain on our elastic bonds of Empire when our Colonies have to swallow our vermiform and wriggling orthography. And when it is remembered that many of our strangest words became tangled and twisted through the flourishes of fancy scribes being mistaken for letters, much of the standing objection to root-murder becomes unsound. Out we tough bough dough nough in this slough, gazing dolmondeley on words like Cholmondeley?

### UNPROFESSIONAL

Mr. John D. Barry had an article on the editorial page of the *San Francisco Bulletin*, July 18, under the general hed of "Ways of the World." Among the current ways of the world he now finds simplified spelling; and he, or the editor, ads, as part of the hedlines, "Already It Is Beginning to Remove Some of Our Prejudices and to Make Us See the Absurdity of Our Present Spelling and the Unnecessary Waste."

But is it strictly professional to tel the truth in any hedlines that refer to simplified spelling? Surely the hedline artist was absent on this occasion—perhaps he was visiting his old home in Crete.

### NOBODY ASKT YOU, SIR

That wel-known British literary review, *The Bazaar, the Exchange and Mart*, in its issue of April 5, says:

The American Simplified Spelling Board has issued a fresh selection of words, which it thinks might be spelled differently by foreigners and half educated people. We have our own "Spelling Sosieti," and its home is in Great Russell Street, at the house with a brass plate upon the door. These societies, which will not let us spell as we like, are becoming a nuisance, and not until they succeed in persuading newspaper proprietors, writers, and printers of books to mend their ways, will they do anything really practical for the cause they have at heart. We will not—no, we will not—spell "duck" as "duk," nor write "sosij," whatever they may say, and we do not care anything about etymology or "simplifide speling."

But who asks you to spel "duck" as "duk?" The Simplified Spelling Society asks you to spel it *duc*, which happens to be a little nearer to its Anglo-Saxon original. And who asks you to rite the other word as "sosij?" Some day, and soon, you wil eat your own words.

### THE KENTUCKY SHORE

The Louisville (Ky.) *Herald*, which began the use of the Twelv Words in its columns on June 24, as a "first step" in the gradual adoption of simplified spelling, printed, on June 23, the folloing editorial:

### OUR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

In its issue of tomorrow the *Herald* will begin the practise of that which it has been preaching in a series of recent articles. It will adopt for use **THRUOUT** (a) its columns a list of twelve simplified spelling forms, thus committing itself to the movement which by gradual process seeks to rationalize English orthography.

**THO** (b) this first step is merely a short step it is a recognition of the sanity of the principle, and will effect a saving in the setting of type amounting to no small aggregate in the course of a year. In adopting a modest **PROGRAM** (c) of reform we avoid the charge of being a **DEMAGOG**, (d) and at the same time pave the way for more **THORO** (e) simplification when the people have become educated to the wisdom and advantage of the idea. In this movement we have the support of the **PEDAGOG**, (f) the man of letters, the business man and the scientist, all of whom see in it a mode of efficiency.

**ALTHO** (g) a few conservative people may resent this departure—people who regard tradition as having the sanctity of the **DECALOG**, (h)—we believe they, in time, will become reconciled. The **CATALOG** (i) of words affected is brief and easily remembered. We trust our leadership in this reform in Kentucky will prove to be the **PROLOG** (j) to a general adoption of these changes in business correspondence, in the schools and in other newspapers of the State.

**THRU** (k) the columns of the *Herald* a hundred thousand people daily will be made familiar with the new forms, and the foundations of a **THOROFARE** (l) laid upon which simplified spelling may advance to popular triumph.

The old-style spellings:

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| (a) throughout | (g) although     |
| (b) though     | (h) decalogue    |
| (c) programme  | (i) catalogue    |
| (d) demagogue  | (j) prologue     |
| (e) thorough   | (k) thorough     |
| (f) pedagogue  | (l) thoroughfare |

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

While Congress is nominally endeavoring to reduce the tariff, a process which seems to include many additions, our lively contemporary *Life* reduces the tariff 16½ per cent at once. Next to a picture of a donkey who is displaying a banner with the old device "High Tariff," *Life* says, "Behold the tariff." And then it explains.

The advertisements in the street cars are becoming instructive. One advertises what is called "Crème Yvette," and gives the information: "Pronounced EEVET." Another announces "Cliequot Club (Kleek-o Club) Ginger Ale." First the puzzle, then the solution.

An "opera house" in Pueblo, Colo., gave notice, on July 12, of a "Grand Vodevil." But still, that does not tell how the word is pronounced at the opera house in Pueblo, Colo. Some visitors saw it and made it a jest — 'vo-devil.'

The Luray (Kan.) *Herald* is thus mentioned by the *Kansas City Star*:

The Luray *Herald*, which is a disciple of spelling reform, uses the word "threast," referring to the wheat, and expresses hope that there may be "enuf" for seed.

The *Kansas City Star* says no more. It does not vituperate the *Herald* or the Simplified Spelling Board, does not express any concern for English etymology, and does not grin thru the horse-collar. Boston and New York papers please copy.

Mr. J. A. Oppy, of Siloam Springs, Ark., has recently published (1913), in pamphlet form (8vo. 36 pp.), "An Open Letter to Seventh-day Adventists," with a preface by Mr. S. L. Larned, of the same place. The pamphlet, including the preface, is printed in advanced simplified spelling. Mr. Larned, in his prefatory remarks commending the orthographic, as well as the theologic stand taken by the author, says: "The steadily increasing interest in simplified spelling is a move in the direction of reason, economy, common sense, and the spirit of a sound mind."

The Liverpool (Eng.) *Daily Post and Mercury* began, August 15, to print, in daily portions for the entertainment of its readers, Mr. H. G. Wells's story, "The Star." This story, as we have mentioned in the BULLETIN (September, 1912), was published in the simplified spelling used by the Simplified Spelling Society; and the Liverpool newspaper chose to print it in the same interesting form. With the first instalment it

gave a "key," altho, as it rightly said, "the matter printed in simplified spelling can be read without any key or instructions."

An interesting piece of information, from a member of a certain faculty, is this: "Our biggest foes in — College are the two women members of our English Department, who know nothing of the history of our language." But they can give "courses" in Browning, or analyze the soul of "Hamlet"; and what more do you want?

## COMING THRU

The Colorado Midland Railway puts forth a summer circular adorned with pictures showing all the polychromatic beauties of the Rocky Mountain region. It is entitled in large, fine, artistic type, "THRU THE ROCKIES." On the first page, and on the last, THRU appears; and it is clear from the pictures that great numbers of persons take these THRU trains. And yet, in the pictures at least, they look wonderfully happy. Instead of being pained by THRU, they seem to be thru with pain. But our point is, that you may spell THRU as it is pronounced, and yet do business, make money, and "get there." The notion that it is impractical and eccentric to spell the word THRU, is not true — or shall we spell it TROUGH?

Not only the Western, but also the Eastern, railways are sending out THRU trains. Even in the New York *Sun* we see advertised the "Seaboard Florida, Ltd." under the heading "To Panama Canal Thru Florida." Advertisements are great persuaders.

## MAKING GAME OF S. S.

Mrs. A. M. Stringfield, 20 Bradhurst avenue, New York City, has invented a "Game of Simplified Spelling." It is played with thirty printed cards, each containing sixty-three words in simplified spelling, selected from the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board. From two to six persons can take part. The game is won by the player who correctly states the simplified spelling form of the greatest number of words given to him, three at a time, by the other players, in turn, from the cards in their hands. The rules are as simple as the spelling, but are capable of various modifications that will suggest themselves to interested players. A set of the cards costs fifty cents, and will be sent, post-paid, on receipt of the price, by the author.

# SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## LAUREATE VERSE AND SPELLING

The new poet laureate of Great Britain, Robert Bridges, like his great predecessor, Tennyson, exercises a control, not only over his words and his verse, but to some extent over his spelling. When occasion arises and opportunity permits, he spells in a definite way, with an intention. In his "Poetical Works," recently published (Oxford University Press, 1913), we find the following spellings:

Whelmèd (p. 4), skill'd (7), furl'd (9), thro' (9, 69, 72, 75, 81), kissèd (12), chinkèd (27), peakèd (36), lapsèd (41), deny'd, dower'd, statu'd (51), unreckt, adorn'd, petal'd (55), delite, blemisht, turn'd (56), jasmin'd (58), tho' (59, 60), pluckt (68), veilèd (71), wer' (72), liv'd, aim'd, lull'd, center'd, nurst, hapt (75), warpt, shun'd (76), trammel'd (77), refresht, stript (79), coud (79, 84, 94), coudst (76), ruin'd (79), faln (82), fear'd (84), jewel'd, humbl'd, possest, addrest (90), vouchsaf't, sail'd, fail'd (91), stept (97), rebel'd (99), and so on; ending on the latter pages with possest (p. 436, 437), activ' accomplice (437), throu' (438), w' (440), delitest (445), dominyon, ambusht (448), brandisht (449), opprest (450), aver'd, unshipt (451), embarkt (452), hav' (456), hav (459), lockt (456), affixt (460), rank't (461), dismisst (464, the last page). Some of these spellings indicate particular notions or directions as to the exact reading of particular lines—a poet telling his readers just what he means, in sense or utterance.

Mr. Bridges marks certain words with accents, so as to tell the reader how to pronounce or stress the words, thus: Selênè, Hypérion, Curêtes (p. 10), Hêra (11), thêre (51).

On page 96, fourteen proper names of Nereids have accents or diacritics to indicate their pro-

nunciation. And Mr. Bridges also reconstructs the spelling of some of them, introducing the Nereids hitherto known as Mæra, Pherusa, and Orithyia, in the more Grecian forms Maira, Ferusa, and Oreithuia.

When the "self-appointed" guardians of British orthography learn that their king-appointed poet laureate is thus interfering with the "time-honoured" spelling of the British Nereids, as guaranteed by Magna Carta, they will no doubt (after a precautionary glance at 'the classical dictionary') fall into the proper state of indignation. Meantime, Mr. Bridges, linkt with the Graces and the Hours in dance, will lead the grateful Nereids to their much-needed orthographic emancipation.

If we had a poet laureate of New England, or of New Jersey, he would, perhaps, feel bound to comply in spelling with the archaism which is suggested by the very title 'poet laureate.' But Mr. Bridges truly gages the British genius for adapting itself to new ideas, after a while; and he sees that even a laureate poet may earn fresh bays, if he will utter his own mind in his own words, freshend in the spring of reason, and molded to his heart's desire.

And what man is there of you who may not also be lord of himself and of his words—and of his works, whether in verse or in prose?

## CRYSTALLIZED ORTHOGRAPHY

So far from a crystallised orthography fixing pronunciation, it disguises it, and permits all manner of sounds to be fitted to the same signs, as the various nations of China use the same literary language with mutually unintelligible varieties of speech.—1875 ELLIS, *On Early English Pronunciation*, pt. 4, p. 1266.

## MISSOURI TEACHERS

At the meeting of the Missouri State Teachers' Association, in St. Louis, November 7, in the morning, the subject of simplified spelling was brought up. Resolutions were offered that all simplified spellings approved by the Simplified Spelling Board should be sanctioned by the Association, and adopted in the "Journal of Proceedings," in which the addresses made at the annual meeting are printed, and that a special committee urge the adoption of simplified spelling throughout the schools; also that the State Superintendent of Education be requested to adopt it officially (as he had promised to do if requested by the Association). This resolution was offered by Dean W. W. Charters, of the School of Education of the University of Missouri, was supported by Dr. John R. Kirk, President of the First District Normal School, and by Prof. Robert Lee Ramsay, and was argued pro and con by other speakers. Owing to the large number of members present, nearly a thousand, the oral vote was indecisive. On a standing vote, the affirmative won by 482 to 432 votes.

At this point, a correspondent rises, "a teacher in the back of the assembly awoke to the fact that the English language was in danger, and rushed to the defense. He leapt on a near-by table and protested with all his energy against 'this thing,' calling out that it was being railroaded thru, that no time had been given for consideration, and that our language should not be assassinated except on a vote by roll-call." But the chairman ruled that it was too near dinner time to assassinate the language (as well as the hungry members) by calling a roll of more than five thousand names; that "the matter was settled anyhow, and could only be reopened by a motion to reconsider," to be brought in at the evening meeting. Our correspondent reports: "We were already half an hour late for dinner, so we adjourned, leaving the English language in an extremely precarious situation!"

In the afternoon, at the departmental meeting of the Society of Teachers of English, Prof. Ramsay read a paper on the "Advantages of Adopting S. S. in Missouri Schools." The paper was followed by five or six speeches, all in favor of simplified spelling. A resolution in favor of the proposal before the general association was passed, with only a "few scattering noes" among the nearly 300 persons present.

At the evening meeting of the general Association, Dr. Kirk, with the approval of Dean

Charters, the mover of the resolution, offered, on behalf of the victorious majority, to consider the resolution, as adopted, merely as a preliminary expression of opinion, and to let it be laid on the table for one year. This was done. By this judicious action the majority conceded to their opponents, who were almost equal in number, their reasonable request for more time for consideration. Many persons who voted against the resolution did so on the ground that a motion of so much importance should not be passed with "undue haste."

As a matter of fact, the proposal has been before the teachers of Missouri for a long time; but the opponents of the idea, secure in their own confidence, had not been paying attention to the growth of public opinion in Missouri on this subject. We may expect them to take the right action next year.

## PACIFIC AGGRESSION

President William Trufant Foster, of Reed College, Portland, Ore., on a recent lecture tour, made addresses in favor of simplified spelling at the Joint Institute of Teachers of Nez Percé and Latah counties, then in session in Moscow, Idaho, on October 24; at the State Normal School, Cheney, Wash., on October 27; at the Spokane County Teachers' Institute, on October 29; and at the convention of the Washington State Teachers' Association, in Spokane, October 31. He spoke on these various occasions to about 2,800 teachers, 300 prospective teachers, 1,200 university students, and 1,200 high-school students. He has sent to the office of the Simplified Spelling Board the signatures of 422 persons who thereby signified their approval of the principle and practice of simplified spelling, and their intention to use the simplified forms, so far as practicable, in their correspondence.

Resolutions endorsing simplified spelling were passed unanimously by the Washington State Teachers' Association, with 400 teachers present, and by the Joint Institute of Teachers at Moscow, with 340 teachers present; and, with only three dissenting votes, by the Spokane County Teachers' Institute, with 320 present and voting.

One result of this campaign was the assurance, by the Washington State Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Josephine Corliss Preston, and by several members of her staff, that the new spellings will hereafter be accepted in state and county teachers' examinations, and that some of the

new forms will be adopted in the official correspondence of the department.

President Foster has engagements to speak at the convention of the Oregon State Teachers' Association, in Salem, December 22, and at the Idaho State Teachers' Convention, in Boisé, December 29.

### MICHIGAN COLLEGE MEN

Simplified Spelling received the indorsement of the College Section of the Michigan State Teachers' Association, at the annual convention in Ann Arbor, October 30—November 1, in the following resolution, proposed by Prof. Clarence L. Meader, of the University of Michigan, and carried by unanimous vote:

RESOLVED, That the College Section of the Michigan State Teachers' Association-Institute approves the principle of simplified spelling and respectfully urges on the University, the colleges, and the normal schools of the State to take measures to further such simplification; that a committee of five be appointed to communicate the sentiments of this resolution to the institutions named, and to arrange for a conference of those institutions with a view to securing uniformity of action.

President Charles McKenny, of the Michigan State Normal College, was appointed chairman of the committee, and plans for the conference are already in train.

Both President McKenny and Professor Meader made addresses on simplified spelling before the Association. Pres. McKenny spoke on "The Present Status of the Movement for the Simplification of English Spelling," and Prof. Meader's paper was entitled "The Character and Progress of the Movement for the Simplification of English Spelling."

### ADVANCEMENT OF TEACHING

The "Seventh Annual Report of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1912," is marked by the introduction of a small number of simplified spellings, namely, *altho*, *tho*, and *thru*.

We may suppose that this is simply a 'first step,' the 'entering wedge,' which has so long disturbed the opponents of any simplified spelling. They do not like to see the wedge enter, and it must be said that they do not see it enter often into the publications of established institutions. But the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching apparently feels obliged to advance the teaching of English by recognizing, if only in a small degree, the opinions and recommendations of the leading scholars in

English, and of the leading educators who have to do with the teaching of English.

Those persons who may be horrified by finding *tho* and *thru* in this report may console themselves by finding most of the old spellings, like *catalogue* (p. 136) and *thoroughly* (p. 139), retained. But they had better console themselves quickly, because in the next report *catalogue*, for example, may be brought up to date. Speaking of college catalogs, the report says (p. 135):

One cannot go thru this work without considering whether the primary purpose of many of these publications is to afford correct information. Certainly there are few catalogues that would not be the better if rewritten from this point of view. Whose need is the publication to serve? Once this is consciously recognized, clearness, brevity and accuracy are apt to follow.

Brevity and accuracy in 'catalogues' result in 'catalogs,' as well as in other things.

### MORE THAN FRIGHTFUL

In the *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 12, No. 4, Oct.—Dec. 1910, in a brief description of the Tewa language, spoken by some Indians in New Mexico and Arizona, the author says (p. 503):

The vocabulary of Tewa is immense. The language is frightfully difficult for an English-speaking person to learn, and is still more difficult to record consistently by means of our present mediaeval system of writing and orthography.

Accordingly, the author prints his specimen in a frightfully different system of orthography, which would be condemned by all right-thinking persons, because it represents closely the actual sounds, and does not look at all like a paragraph from a daily newspaper.

However, the editors of the *American Anthropologist*, in the main text, stand true to the frightful medieval spelling, and compel their contributors to spell accordingly.

### LAM AND CLAMB

A young man walking through a foreign quarter stopped with an amused smile in front of a small eating place, the window of which had a sign "Lam Stew". The proprietor, from his doorway, asked what the joke was, and the young fellow explained about the missing "b" in "lamb." The next day he found that, while the bill of fare had changed, the spelling-lesson had not been forgotten. The proprietor was now offering "Clamb Chowder."—*Everybody's Magazine*.

### FIVE NEW MEMBERS

The Simplified Spelling Board announst, September 25, the election of five new members:

JOHN BURROUGHS, author and naturalist, West Park, N. Y.

GEORGE W. CABLE, author, Northampton, Mass.

GANO DUNN, electrical engineer, New York.

IRVING FISHER, professor of political economy, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

WILLIAM TRUFANT FOSTER, president of Reed College, Portland, Ore.

These gentlemen, who wer previously members of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board, hav now become members of the Board. They thus express in a more conspicuus way their approval of the movement for the regulation of English spelling, their general sanction of the policy and recommendations of the Board, and their willingness to cooperate, personally and officially, with their colleagues in the further conduct of the campain for reason and common sense in the spelling of the English language.

Mr. Burroughs is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters; and is the author of "Wake Robin," "Signs and Seasons," "Literary Values," "Camping and Tramping with Roosevelt," "The Summit of the Years," and of other volumes.

Mr. Cable also is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters; founder of the Home Culture Clubs, now Northampton People's Institute; and author of many books, including "Old Creole Days," "The Grandissimes," "Dr. Sevier," and "The Cavalier."

Mr. Dunn is president of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation; and is a member, and past president, of the New York Electrical Society and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Prof. Fisher was long the editor of the *Yale Review*; he is a fello of the Royal Statistical Society; and the author of "Mathematical Investigations in the Theory of Value and Prices," "The Nature of Capital and Income," "The Purchasing Power of Money," etc.

Dr. Foster, before his election to the presidency of Reed College in 1911, was Professor of English and Argumentation in Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me. He is the author of "Argumentation and Debating," "Essentials of Exposition and Argument," "Administration of the College Curriculum," etc.

The election of these men to membership in the Simplified Spelling Board marks the progress which the cause of Simplified Spelling has made in the literary and scientific world. Beside eminent men of letters, men of science, and men of affairs, the Board includes among its members fourteen university professors, four university presidents (two retired), six presidents of normal scools, and two superintendents of education. Not only do these scolars and educators approve the idea and the practis of simplified spelling, but simplified spellings ar now officially used in the catalogs, circulars, and correspondence of some of the institutions of learning with which they ar connected, and some members ar introducing modernized spelling into their books. It needs no great acumen to see that their example wil influence a great part of the educated public, who in turn wil introduce the modern ideas into their own circles.

### ALFABETIC SCHEMES

The present year has been unusually prolific in individual schemes for the regulation of the English alfabet. So far as we kno, all hav arisen out of the agitation for a regulation of English spelling. All recognize the connection between the two problems. Some of these proposals ar worthy of special notis, and we regret that lack of space prevents us from dealing with them in the present number.

Among the schemes in question ar those of Robert Bridges, the poet laureate, Sir Harry H. Johnston, and the Rev. James Knowles, of Great Britain; Mr. Robert Morris Pierce, of New York; and Mr. R. C. Eldridge, of Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Proposals of this kind, if folloed by due discussion and experiment, must hav good results, both in making clear what is desirable and possible in this direction, and in shoing what is not desirable, or not possible. One thing is certain, that no scheme wil be accepted by many until it is accepted by at least a few. One (the inventor) is not a few—or, at any rate, is too few. The problem is scientific and requires scientific treatment.

### ORTHOGRAFY A BLIND GUIDE

It is not orthography, but intercommunication, the school-master, and social pressure to which we owe our apparent uniformity of pronunciation.—1875 ELLIS, *On Early English Pronunciation*, pt. 4, p. 1266.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

Mr. Arthur R. Leonard, of the High School of Commerce, Columbia, Ohio, has printed an "Outline of Ancient History," containing a moderate number of simplified spellings. He finds that information about Egypt and Babylon, Palestine and Prussia, Greece and Rome, and other matters of ancient history, may be printed in a modern spelling of English, just as well as in a medieval spelling.

Dr. A. Gideon, lately of the Colorado State Teachers' College, is now a professor in the University of Wyoming. He has lost no time in bringing the matter of simplified spelling before the students of the university. At the regular assembly, November 3, he spoke on the subject "Why Our Spelling Should Be Simplified." A report of the lecture appears in the *Wyoming Student* for November 4.

Mr. Conrad Raps, superintendent of schools, Crosby, Minn., sent, November 3, 1913, 24 cards signed by students in the Crosby public schools. The names of these students go upon our permanent list, and they will receive information about the progress of the movement. And Mr. Raps will deserve their thanks for thus putting them in possession of a new idea which they can appreciate, approve, and carry out.

Mr. Charles S. Burt obtained at the meeting of the Michigan State Teachers' Association, Ann Arbor, October 30, 31, and November 1, 281 cards signed chiefly by teachers who were in attendance at the meeting. These teachers will thus hereafter be kept informed of what is done in promoting the movement for a regulation of English spelling; and a good many of them may be expected to promote the cause, either by allowing the idea to make its way unopposed by them, or by taking an active part in pushing the idea.

The Kirksville Normal School *Index*, Kirksville, Mo., is using simplified spelling to a slight extent—*thru*, and the like. We notice in a report written by its president, Dr. Kirk, and lately published in the *Index*, many more simplified forms than the *Index* usually contains. Evidently the students are more 'conservative' than the president. Presidents are usually so impulsive!

Prof. Brander Matthews gave an address on "English Spelling" before the Institute of Arts and Sciences of Columbia University, in Horace Mann Auditorium, Monday evening, October 27. As a result of this lecture, forty-seven requests

for information and circulars were received at the office of the Simplified Spelling Board within the next two or three days.

The faculty of the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kans., had a test vote on the question of the adoption of simplified spelling, September 24. Forty-eight professors voting, twenty-eight expressed themselves in favor of the movement, while twenty voted to adhere to the old stand.

At a meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English in Chicago, November 28, Mr. W. H. Wilcox of Maryland State Normal School, read a paper on "The Attitude of Normal and Elementary Schools toward Simplified Spelling." His conclusion was: "The new form of spelling is bound to come."

Spelling bees are in full blast; and pupils, teachers, trustees, editors, and other persons are kept in the eternal round of pupillary subjection, while they try to learn or try to guess the spellings that are printed in the spelling-books that happen to be used by the persons who give out the words. We hope that the process will be continued. No one thinks of holding arithmetic bees or geography bees, in which grown-up persons shall take part, with a chance that they may be flooded on these elementary matters. The inference is that spelling is not an elementary subject, but one that should be kept for ever before the minds of all persons—the one subject that shall always be taught and never be learned.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

The following authorized announcement, dated October 23, was published in the newspapers of October 24, 1913:

All of the correspondence and publications of the faculty of the School of Education at the University of Missouri will hereafter adopt simplified spelling.

The press dispatch was in these words:

All the reformed words in the list of the Simplified Spelling Board were adopted by the faculty of the State School of Education to-day. Resolutions will be introduced at the next meeting of the Missouri State Teachers Association, adopting the simplified method.

The newest list issued by the Simplified Spelling Board contains sixty-one rules involving several thousand words.

This action is notable. A department, and that the department of education, of a university adopts *all* of the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board. The university assents, but is not officially committed; while the department of education works out the experiment without hindrance.

## IN VIRGINIA

Simplified spelling was brought before the annual meeting of the Virginia State Teachers' Association at Lynchburg, November 26-28. Professor James W. Bright of Johns Hopkins University, a member of the Board, presented the case for simplified spelling from the intellectual and scientific point of view. The following is an abstract of his address:

The Prussian Chancellor Bismarck believed that black-letter print conserved national sentiment. He feared the consequences of giving up the picturesque Gothic style of letter-architecture. This is a supreme instance of emotional attachment to the appearance of the printed page. Respect for sentiment has restrained the popular mind from ridiculing this whim of Bismarck's; it has rather been valued as a fine old coin, but meanwhile the new matrices have been cut and put to work at the national press of Germany.

If the feelings of an enlightened nation—the nation of universities—may be so deeply rooted in unmeaning externals, much more will externals that are significant be expected to establish deep associations and prejudices. The problem of spelling thus becomes one that involves cherished feelings and emotions; it becomes a problem in esthetics and even in ethics. One is therefore confronted with such confessions as the following, recently made by a literary scholar: "I have no doubt of your being able to disprove every objection I could urge against changing our spelling; but I should still not feel otherwise than unalterably opposed to it. I don't like it. It offends the best feelings I am conscious of."

But such feelings are generally wrongly understood. They are not, as is erroneously supposed, independent of intellectual discipline, nor of the argument of utility and of common advantage. Esthetic perceptions depend on rational and verifiable facts. This is evident from the history of human development.

Few persons can tell why a word is spelled as it is; but many will say, 'let it alone; don't change it'. 'There is a disturbance of the record of etymology,' will be said by those who have learned the etymology of the fewest words, if of any. They forthwith contradict themselves by insisting on the retention of the *h* and *y* in *rhyme* and of the *b* in *thumb*. They cling to the renaissance caprice of *b* in *debt*, although they do not know that fine designation; and *feather* without the *a*, they imply, would weigh a pound of distress, and *pleasure* without the *a* would be converted into positive pain.

But the element of habit lies at the root of the matter. The interruption of deep-seated habit occasions uneasiness and unwelcome effort. Experience, however, teaches that a new habit soon establishes itself, and that anything that satisfies the reason does not long continue to jar upon the unreasoning nerves. And it is to be remembered that the coming generations, accus-

tomed from the first to new things, such as new forms of the words, will have not less but surely more esthetic satisfaction in that which is approved by the intellect.

Let a reason for the hope that is within us not be silent. Man was not made for orthography, but orthography for man. A rational consideration of the function of alphabetic writing, and an accurate knowledge of the history of the forms of English words through centuries of change, and a right regard for the ethical and practical obligation resting upon a generation that knows these things better than they were known at any previous time—it is these broad and unbiased considerations of facts and emotions that must surely overcome the present hesitant state of mind and reconcile all to a gradual revision of the objective, and in large part objectionable, pictures of our words.

The greatest cultural agencies have been the dictionaries of our language. The influence of Webster's and Worcester's on their willing disciples could not well be measured. The rule of life was to follow either the one or the other. The family with Webster's on the table was distinguished from the more exclusive or less democratic family with Worcester's. The national schoolmaster, the dictionary, has now significantly ceased to have a personal name; the new names signify nationality and internationality; and these names also imply growth toward cosmopolitanism, which is restricted by no geography but merely by periods of history. The names 'The Century Dictionary', 'The International Dictionary', and 'The Standard Dictionary' are thus symbols of an era in which the English language has attained an unrivalled position in the world. No greater tribute has ever been paid to the worth and dignity of a language than that which is represented in the preparation and publication of the Oxford Dictionary—'A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles'. This is one of the world's greatest books. It is an enduring monument, commemorating a conquest by organized scholarship; and it stands as an immovable obstruction in the path of retrogression.

The history of English culture from the apex of Dr. Johnson's imperious individualism to the broad internationalism of the cultural dogma of to-day is, therefore, reflected in the dictionaries of the period. Now it should be observed that the question of orthographic doctrine has been a constant factor in the cultural problems of the lexicographers. The inference is plain that there has been progress in so fundamental a matter. The present state of English scholarship puts the question of orthography in clearer light than was possible before. Cheap ridicule has been silent, and English spelling has become one of the most fundamental of educational problems. It is now open for the most serious discussion by special scholars and by the public at large, for all classes have free access to instruction in the matter.

The Simplified Spelling Board of America and England, and the Simplified Spelling Society of

England and America constitute one closely knit international organization, and the aim is twofold: on the one hand, to study the question with scientific precision and historic fulness; on the other hand, to cultivate and maintain close communication with the people at large, so that every intelligent citizen may have access to instruction to the extent of his wishes and according to the curve of his proclivities.

There is something unusual in this generous and sincere offer of intellectual and esthetic instruction. It is so free-handed as to excite suspicion. But there is an accumulated store of experiences in the observation of the unselfish, disinterested aims of pure science and of popular education that will conquer all mistrust; and a popular interest in the technical discussions, in the historic recitals, in the accurate discriminations, and even in the emotional appeals of these societies, may become one of the most notable educational achievements of the early decades of this century.

Prof. James H. Grainger of the Virginia State Normal School at Farmville, Virginia, spoke, distributed circulars, and concerned himself with seeing that the matter was brought to the individual attention of the teachers in attendance.

### ADVERTIZING'S ARTLESS AID

A Chicago theater announced last July that it would "Open Sat. nite, August 3."

The Unit Construction Company advertizes something as "Unit Bilt."

We see an advertizement of "Duxbac Belting."

"Come-Packt Furniture" will come packt in a compact manner.

Some publishers in Tokyo, Japan, publish the following spelling of *eighty*: "Eaghty." They got the *gh* in, which is the main thing in English spelling.

The "Rite-Hite Wardrobe" trunk does not stand upon ceremony.

A factory in Philadelphia put up a sign, "Wanted, button sowers on dresses, fourth floor." We suppose that the "sowers" went up to "sow."

A certain "Reflector Lamp Guard" is called "Loxon," for a reason that all will catch on.

We read of a "Justrite Oily Waste Can," and of a "Justrite" acetylene mine lamp.

A certain automobile is advertized as a "Fifty Horse Power Rambler Thorobred."

In a New York shop in which what is called soda-water, and other things, are dispensed, we have seen this sign: "Cherry Karbler 10," meaning apparently that a 'cherry cobbler' may be had for ten cents. There are several lessons in this, which are worth more than ten cents.

A firm dealing in woollens advertizes "Verikool Cloth", in that verikool spelling. In Great Britain, at present, it would be vericuul.

A Chicago company offers "Start-Lite" as the most up-to-date lighting system.

"Creo-Dipt" shingles are dipt in creosote, and sold under that brief name. Though spelled shorter, they last longer than other shingles.

"Hy-Pol" is a preparation for giving a hy polish to furniture. Accept any substitute.

Some Chicago shoe dealers advertize shoes with "Hugtite" heels.

### LANTERN SLIDES FOR LECTURERS

The Executive Committee has prepared a series of lantern slides to exemplify and illustrate the history of English spelling. It includes photographs of pages of English books of different periods, and tables of variant and contradictory spellings.

These lantern slides are for the use of lecturers. Any one of them will serve as a text for discourse and argument, and the whole series would, in itself, constitute a lecture of unusual interest and value.

### WITHOUT APOLOGY

Isadore Dyer, M.D., of New Orleans, has published a book entitled "The Art of Medicine and Other Addresses, Papers, etc.," J. A. Majors & Co., New Orleans, La., 1913.

Dr. Dyer is an apostle of simplified spelling, well known in Louisiana. In these essays on "The Art of Medicine" he uses the art of simplification to a certain extent. We note some of the simplified forms:

*Bedeckt*, *fixt* (p. 7); *imprest* (8); *stopt* (16); *gallopt* (17); *attacht* (21); *flasht* (43); *advanst* (48); *developt* (49); *past* (126); *fulfilment* (20); *tho* (7). Some forms present *s* for *c* before *e*, *i* and *y*, namely, *advanse* (24); *chanse* (35); *offense* (93); *disgrase* (21); *performanse* (17); *significanse* (21); *potensy* (9); *poliseman*, *sosiety*, *servise* (126); and so on.

These simplified spellings are used as a matter of course. There is no statement that they are used, and there is no apology for them.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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Charles P. G. Scott, Secretary and Treasurer; No. 1 Madison avenue.

Brander Matthews, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Columbia University.

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(Signed) HENRY GALLUP PAINE, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of October, 1913.

SEAL

(Signed) S. J. GENSLER,  
Notary Public, New York County, No. 20.  
My commission expires March 26, 1914.

## BRAINS AND FINGERS

A Western lawyer, in signing the card expressing his approval of the new simplifications in spelling, wrote: "My fingers having learned the old orthography, often refuse to follow the new spelling, but my brain is convinced that the latter is correct." This deference to reason and reflection, if not overcome, will play havoc with the old orthography. Many newspaper editors, speaking from personal experience, could tell you that they never use their brains in connection with this subject, and yet they have been wonderfully successful in selling their wares.

## A WORD TO THE WISE

The *Sentinel*, of Waterville, Maine, in an editorial article, said: "It requires a president or a college professor to simplify spelling without being accused of being an ignoramus." In other words, any man who understands his subject, and knows what he is about, has no fear of being called an ignoramus. A word to the wise: If you are afraid of being called or thought an ignoramus, you are one. Until you have shaken off this dread, you will never be free.

One easy way of avoiding the charge of being an ignoramus is to abandon opposition to

the regulation of English spelling. Any one who believes that spelling, one of the common instruments of civilization, ought never to be regulated or improved, is ignoring the first principles of science and reason. Of course, few so believe; but it pleases many to say so, not knowing what they say.

## FIRST PRINCIPLES

While it is requisite that free play should be given to conservative thought and action, progressive thought and action must also have free play. Without the agency of both, there cannot be those continual re-adaptations which orderly progress demands.

—1861 SPENCER, *First Principles*, §84.

The first principle of those who suppose that English spelling is a sacred thing is to suppress all progressive thought and action in that matter. No change must be discussed or tried. The proposer of any change is to be ridiculed and vituperated. The subject is not to be considered. Precisely the same attitude was adopted two generations ago by the conservative upholders of slavery and other inherited evils of that time. Was that attitude, is that attitude, reasonable? Is it an intellectual attitude suited to an intellectual being? Conserv all you please—conserv even old spelling for appropriate purposes; but at least allow other men to propose improvements for the present and the future, and listen to their views.

IS WAS HAS  
AR WER HAV

In the Fourth List the Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council, acting, as they have good reason to believe, with the approval of the great body of their supporters, formally recommend the permanent adoption of the simplified spellings *ar*, *wer* and *hav*. These words recur without end; and once the hand gets used to omitting the dead final *e*, the neatness and convenience of the short (and true) forms become evident.

One incidental advantage every typewriter and printer will appreciate. In revising typewritten or printed matter, it is often necessary to change from singular to plural, or from plural to singular. To substitute, on a typewritten or a printed page, *are* for *is*, or *were* for *was*, or *have* for *has*, one must fill up the empty space left after the *is*, *was* or *has*, or else respace the adjacent words. Now, *is* and *ar*, *was* and *wer*, *has* and

*hav*, *hav* the same number of letters; and either the singular or the plural can be substituted for the other without disturbing the adjacent types or typeriting. And even in handriting the change makes for convenience.

A similar gain would be seen if we could persuade ourselves to bring other words of three or four sounds into spellings of three or four letters, that would pair in a similar way: if, for example, *could*, *should*, *would*, and *might*, wer thus brought into even length with their presents, *can*, *shal*, *wil*, *may*.

If printers and compositors wer allowd to use some simplified spellings, they would soon seize upon this advantage. In the long run there would be a positiv reduction in the cost of pres correction.

## GRAMMAR AND GRAMMARS

Editors and correspondents of newspapers hav much to say of "the grammarians." Some invoke their aid against "innovation," and others deplore their despotic use of their "authority." Few inquire what is the ground of their authority. There ar, there must be, "grammar" and "authority"; but they hav no basis except in fact and in reason.

With a few exceptions, most of the compilers of English grammars and most of the magazine critics of style, hav been incompetent critics, ignorant of the nature and history of the special points they discuss, and often absurdly dogmatic about things of which they hav only a superficial knoledge. This is especially tru of their treatment of English spelling.

There always has been, and there always will be, a difference between the colloquial and the literary forms of English, and of every other cultivated language. It is desirable that this distinction should be preservd. The notion that there ought to be only one kind of English, that there is only one kind of "correct" language, arises from inattention. English, like all other historical languages, has a literary style, of which there ar many fases—poetic, dramatic, lyric, rhetorical, sarcastic, humorus, and so on; a colloquial style, in many fases—local, domestic, rural, dialectal, slang, and all kinds of special and cryptic utterances; and a tecnical style, as in science and trade, where the style results from the intention to be only accurate and efficient for the purpose in view. All these styles hav their place. Any one may be used when one's judgment or taste so requires; and to re-

ject all but one is like keeping in a market only one kind of vegetable or one kind of fruit. A wise man prefers to choose, and he likes a range of choice. And so, in a les degree, as to pronunciation, and therefore as to spelling.

## 'GOOD' AND 'BAD' SPELLING

An English paper tells this story: "A little boy writing home said: 'I have been at the Spelling Bee, and spelled down everybody and won the Meddle'."

We all smile. We do not think of the fact that if he had ment to rite of the 'mettle' of a horse, and had spelt it 'metal,' he would not hav won a meddle, altho 'metal' is really the correct word in the frase mentiond, and 'mettle' was once a 'bad,' that is, a different, spelling of it, precisely as 'meddle' is stil a 'bad' spelling of 'medal.' Thus, we see that good spelling is really a spelling that no one smiles at—because he does n't kno *two* things about it. A 'bad' spelling, correct or incorrect, is one that people smile at, because they remember, at the time, that there is an other spelling, which they suppose to be the right one; and to many minds it is 'awful funny' to get sight of a second idea. If they ar askt to assimilate a second idea, then the matter becomes serius; and they become as sad as that wel-known conservativ who perisht between two bales of hay, tho he was perfectly willing to assimilate either.

## NORTH DAKOTA

The *Quarterly Journal* of the University of North Dakota continues the use of simplified spellings. It folloes a list of more than 200 words. There is no material opposition among the professors. We understand that there has been some reluctance among the trustees to permit the use of even these mild simplifications; but this reluctance among the powers that be to admit any changes in spelling in the institutions under their control, is precisely the thing which the Simplified Spelling Board was designd to overcome. When the Board was organized, the general trend of opinion and desire among the teachers in universities and colleges who had paid any attention to the subject of English spelling, was favorable to its gradual regulation and improvement; but the governing powers, as always happens in institutions, ar concernd more to maintain the existing status than to

change it in any particular. And all that can be expected of them (but thus much we have a right to expect) is that they shall not interfere, when the teachers, who are the real intellectual force of a university or college, shall wish to improve the existing status, whether in spelling or in anything else. The teachers, the thinkers, should not be hindered from either utterance or action.

### IN THE AIR

Owing to ignorance of its spelling and pronunciation, the word *aeroplane* is often pronounced as if spelled *areoplane* or *airoplane*. This makes five pronunciations (é'ə-ro-plên, æ'ə-ro-plên, é'ri-o-plên, æ'ri-o-plên, æ'ro-plên). The word *aeroplane*, as properly pronounced, may be difficult; but if it is to be called *areoplane* or *airoplane*, we should spell it accordingly. But the French and the Germans will not follow us.

*Aviation*, *aviator*, *aviate*, form an easy and convenient group, leaving no uncertainties. But we find in this group no definite name for the aviator's machine. To call the machine also an *aviator* would be in accordance with an indolent popular custom; but it is not well to adopt by deliberate choice any more words of this indiscriminate kind. The differing uses of *typewriter*, *smoker*, *sleeper*, *broiler*, *sweater*, etc., show what trouble lies in this indolent usage. Don't give the name of a living creature to a machine. There is, after all, a difference.

### SPELLINGS ADOPTED

In the *Year-Book* of the American Society for Testing Materials (affiliated with the International Association for Testing Materials), under the "Regulations Governing Form of Specifications," on page 19, is printed the following paragraph:

#### SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION

(a) Simple Words.—The following spelling shall be used:

aging	formulas	oxide
benzene	fulfil	paraffin
briquette	gage	program
center	gasoline	reinforced
disk	glycerin	sulphur
embed	iodine	turpentine
fiber	mold	

It will be seen that this list contains a number of simplified spellings, namely, *center*, *fiber*, *fulfil*, *gage* (for *gauge*), *program*, *mold*, *paraffin*.

The spelling of the chemical terms is adjusted to accord with the intention to make the suffixes, as spelled, chemically significant; that

is, in *benzene* and *iodine* the suffixes have different implications. The recommendation of *aging* is a protest against a common variation in such words, *ageing*, etc. The requirement of *sulphur* is contrary to the advanced usage among chemists, but conforms to commercial usage.

The significant thing about these regulations, and similar regulations in other technical manuals, is that these improved forms are not recommended in the name of reform or education, but merely for convenience. If professional or technical workers, like engineers and chemists, may apply the principles of reason and convenience to their most used words, surely other men may do the like.

### A CLU TO THE TRUTH

Simplified spellings like *clu*, *cru* (as recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board and the Simplified Spelling Society) and conventional spellings like *lunatic*, *prudent*, *cruel*, usually accepted as satisfactory, and needing no change, represent an existing pronunciation—not the existing pronunciation, not the pronunciation "preferred by all educated persons." They represent a pronunciation that not only does exist, but is known to be common among educated persons and is, in the opinion of the societies, quite acceptable; though it may be reasonably set aside, in any serious adjustment hereafter, in favor of another existing pronunciation that may then be really 'preferred,' after full consideration. If one wishes to be more particular, he may write *clû*, or *clû*, or *cluu*, or *cluw*, but he should then state the particular system which he wishes to follow.

Thus, *clu*, *cru*, *concluding*, *prudent*, *cruel*, represent what would be indicated in a common crude notation as *cloo*, *croo*, *conclooding*, *proodent*, *crooel*, etc. If one holds that these words are, or should be, pronounced *cliu*, *criu*, *concliuding*, *priudent*, *criuel*, or *clyu*, *cryu*, *conclyuding*, *pryudent*, *cryuel*, then he can not properly use *clu*, *cru* to indicate his preferred pronunciation; and he may justly object to changing *clue* or *clew*, *crew*, etc., to *clu*, *cru*, etc., for his pronunciation. But he must not talk about "long u" when he really means a diphthong. He must adopt a name and a notation to suit his diphthongal pronunciation—either accepting the ordinary filologic notation *iu* or *yu*, or some compromise notation (*eu*, or *eeoo*, or *yoo*). What he speaks he must in truth record; what he prefers he must in print make plain.

No one can well express his opinions in print in the matter of the pronunciation of individual words, unless he uses a *notation*. We will not call it a fonetic notation, because that is a dreadful thing to mention before ladies; but a notation — some printed marks to sho *what he means* as to the pronunciation. Ordinary spelling wil sho what he means in other things. It wil *not* sho what he means in pronunciation.

## MEMORIZING BY MAIN FORCE

Desperate and expensiv efforts ar made in most scools to secure "better spelling"—that is, more success, by a greater number of pupils, in remembering, or gessing, the conventional spelling of English words. The scool authorities must try to overcome this difficulty. But what credit is due to the scool authorities who *cherish* this difficulty as a valued part of their plan of education?

The memorizing of these broken and disorderd fragments of orthografy is about as useful as the memorizing of the signs strown along Broadway from the Battery to High Bridge. It would be a great achievement to do this. The record would hav a certain historical value; and the different signs would afford a basis for interesting comments of a literary, scientific, or sociologic nature. And so of our common spelling. It is ful of curius things. But after all, what is the use of forcing any one to *memorize* all these curius things? They ar there to be seen, if we go to see. The record is accessible; and it could all be ritten down on paper, and filed for reference. But why should even one person, much more, why should 18,000,000 children, be required to memorize such a monstros string of spellings, when all that is necessary could be taut and learnd from an orderly plan, and the rest left for a little research, when occasion may arise?

## MANDARINISM

The *Journal of Education*, one of the leading British educational organs, speaking of the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Society, said (July, 1912):

"If the missionaries of the Society can induce people to care a little less about exactitude in spelling, they will achieve something. Rigid uniformity in spelling is a thing of quite modern growth (Elizabethans spelt even their own names in two or more ways), and it is in reality no more necessary to human intercourse than rigid uniformity in pronunciation. There are already a considerable number of words in English—such as 'honour,' 'programme,' 'rhyme,'—that may be spelt in two or more ways. No one, as far as we can see, would be a penny the worse if

their number were multiplied ten-fold—unless, indeed, it were the examiners, who might find part of their occupation gone. That a tide-waiter or an Indian civilian should be plucked because he spells 'posthumous' without the *h*, or even 'parliament' without the *i*, is a relic of mandarinism."

Yes. Better pluck the borroed fethers from the words themselvs. *Posthumous* with the *h*, and *parliament* with the *i*, ar strutting in plumes not their own. To omit the letter in question would be in each case to correct an old blunder, and to stop the course of a falsehood. *Posthumous* is properly *postumus*, from the Latin *postumus*, meaning 'the latest.' It has nothing to do (as the spelling *posthumous* implies) with something that happend 'after' the man had been put under the 'ground'—a queer meaning supposed to be buried in a supposed Latin phrase, *post humum*.

The main contention of the *Journal of Education* is perfectly sound. There ar more than 3,000 English words that may be speld in two or more ways, even according to the accepted dictionaries. We ar learning now that there ar about 300,000 English words that may be speld in two or more ways, *if we choose to do so*; and some persons hav chosen to choose the most reasonable spelling possible, for every word. When the mediaval examiners, or the mediaval men who impress mediaval conditions upon the examiners, shal retire from the modern scene, we shal hav, not "rigid uniformity" in spelling, but a reasonable uniformity of spelling, based on a reasonable uniformity of pronunciation, which wil be attained by reasonable uniformity in the application of the rules of reason and common sense.

## WHY NOT REFORM SOMETHING ELSE?

One of the correspondents of the Melbourne *Argus* rote to ask the folloing question:

SIR: Would it not be better to teach our children to speak (and write) the 'King's English' grammatically before tinkering with phonetics? Just listen for a moment to the talk of the children you meet! Yours, etc.

The same style of argument is used north of the equator. Never improve anything; because there is always something else to improve, and you should never begin with what is proposed. Always begin with something else; and don't begin with that until some one proposes some other reform. Then propose your pet idea (which you happen to think up at the moment), and thus kil off the thing which the other man intends with the thing which you don't intend. Never "tinker" anything until everything else is tinkerd.

## THE HUM OF THE WIND

Mr. John Burroughs, who has been elected a member of the Simplified Spelling Board, has published an other volume of thoughts and speculations about nature and life. It is entitled "The Summit of the Years."

And this is what Mr. Burroughs, an observer of nature, and a philosopher of her academy, can say at the summit of the years :

I still find the day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read, and all the friends I want to see. The longer I live, the more my mind dwells upon the beauty and the wonder of the world.

I have loved the feel of the grass under my feet and the sound of the running stream by my side. The hum of the wind in the tree-tops has always been good music to me, and the face of the fields has often comforted me more than the faces of men.

That is, it is good to be here. So say the men who see what is, and have ideas of what may be brought to pass. They approve progress and take part in it, and like to see it going on and to hear it going on. They love the sound of a going in the tops of the trees ; and they like also to see going upon the face of the earth, "on, and always on."

## STANDARD PAGES

One of the benefits of any work for reform is the obligation it lays upon the workers to be more reasonable in other things. This is particularly so in intellectual reforms like the movement for the regulation and improvement of the spelling of the English language. Here the appeal is unto reason. The advocates of intellectual reforms must respect reason in all their words and works.

But this obligation to be reasonable in all things affords an opportunity to be reasonable in some things. One can hardly hope to be reasonable in *all* things, and if he were, he would be a market man — an alien from social life — a hermit in the desert.

A reformation of English spelling means, in great part, the regulation of its appearance in print. And the same motion of judgment which prescribes a rational and fit spelling, prescribes also a rational and fit form of print. This means that, when it is possible, the advocates of a rational spelling shall use type that is good in form and clear to read, and shall have the type set in a shape that will be clear and pleasant to see. The obligation, of course, rests especially upon editors and publishers. This

means that the publications in behalf of simplified spelling should be, as far as possible, models of clearness and convenience. They should be printed with good type of adequate size and proper shape, in lines that are not too long or too short, and that are separated by a sufficient space of white paper. The page of print should have a fixed proportion of width and length, and the sheet of paper, as finally cut, should also have a fixed proportion of width and length ; and there should be a limited number of different sizes. Moreover, the paper should be, for the most part, white, light, and strong. These are ideal and yet possible requirements. They form the standard to which editors and publishers should, when they can, conform ; though they may, of course, deviate whenever a temporary purpose or a higher purpose is to be served. Various editors, printers, and typefounders have made experiments and expressed opinions on these subjects. Many reports have been printed. The American Library Association, through some of its members, and through some of its publications, has approved the idea, and has made some attempts to promote it. And now there is an international society, 'The Bridge' ('Die Brücke'), with headquarters in Europe, which is endeavoring to make the movement definite and effective.

In publishing the tracts of a missionary society, like those of the Board of Foreign Missions, or those of the Simplified Spelling Board, it is often necessary at the beginning, or in some directions, owing to particular circumstances, or to limited means, to print the tracts in a poor way, with small type, on thin paper, in small sizes. The matter of size and weight of paper becomes very important when it is a question of circulating a hundred thousand or a million copies through the mails. A hundred thousand copies of even the poorest tract weigh many pounds, and the post-office weighs those pounds without any regard to the high purpose of the tracts or of the reformers.

The publications of the Simplified Spelling Board have been printed chiefly in two forms : the octavo form, with size of type page 7½ inches by 4½ inches, with size of paper about 8½ by 5½ ; and folio size, as in the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN, with size of type page 9½ inches by 7 inches, and size of paper 11½ inches by 8 inches. Special circulars, chiefly for the Board and Council, have been of quarto size, type page 8½ inches by 5½ inches. The cards, which have been circulated in many hundred thousands, are of the same dimensions as those of the small-

size government postal cards, namely, 5 inches by 3 inches; this being the 'P size' recommended and circulated by the Library Bureau, and used in many public libraries.

These sizes are thus in conformity with the majority usage of progressive librarians. The P size which has been recommended by the International Society is nearly the same, the differences being due in part to different inferences made as the result of experiments, and in part to European habits, associated on the one hand with national measures, and on the other with the international metric system. The matter is not yet fully settled. It is not, indeed, desirable that it should ever be rigidly fixed. But it is desirable that there should be a movement toward greater uniformity. Without committing the members of the Board to any opinion or policy, we state the matter, and express our own opinion that it is desirable, when it may become convenient, to conform educational publications to the standard sizes which have been recommended.

#### EGS 300 YEARS OLD

The Knoxville (Tenn.) *Journal-Tribune*, July 30, 1913, printed a statement which bore the headline "Egs Four Years Old Just as Good as New." The editor will be interested to learn that "egs" 300 years old are, or is, just as good as new; for that spelling, *egs*, was used more than three hundred years ago, namely, by Minshew (1599), Holland (1601), Sylvester (1608) and other authors. "Fresh Egs" were advertised in the Truro (Nova Scotia) *Daily News*, Dec. 18, 1909; and the New York *Evening Post* told us (Feb. 8, 1910) that "the use of *egs* and white meats is allowed every day at the principal meals" in Lent.

A single *eg* also may be found, of equal age, in the cold storage of that English literature which is so much adored, and so little seen, by opponents of simplified spelling. The spelling *eg* is found in Florio (1598), Stevens (1706), and other authors. And *egg* is not found in Shakespeare. He 'preferred' *egge* and *egges*.

#### HAVOC OF DIFTHONGS

The orthography used by local writers of the present day, founded on the received pronunciation as they conceive it, still confuses many vowel-sounds, and makes perfect havoc of the diphthongs.—1875 ELLIS, On Early English Pronunciation, pt. 4, p. 1266.

#### PRINTERS AND SPELLING

The printers do all of the spelling that appears in print, with more or less assistance from the authors of the manuscripts and the worthy guild of proofreaders. Printers have, from the beginning, used a great deal of simplified spelling, though it was the printers also, who, in the 17th century began, and in the 19th century completed, the process of paralyzing, fossilizing, and stereotyping the greater part of English spelling, in a movement toward uniformity—a movement in which reason and common sense were often ignored, and in which errors of history and errors of judgment were very frequent.

In most printing offices, spelling is a matter of mere routine, according to a crude list of preferred forms, or according to unconsidered custom. But printing is an art which has relations with the fine arts, and with science; and the trade organs of printers are beginning to allow reason and science to be heard accordingly. Some of the periodicals of the printing trade not only favor, but use simplified spellings. Among these are:

The *American Printer*, New York City; the *Pacific Printer*, San Francisco; *Buckeye Printersdom*, Delphos, Ohio; and *Printcraft*, a new trade journal of Chicago.

#### WALPOLE'S 'PEAK'

Horace Walpole wrote a great many letters. He did not greatly admire Dr. Samuel Johnson, but that was not the reason why Horace Walpole used some simplified spellings—Johnson did the same. In "Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole," written chiefly between 1780 and 1787, and published by Sir Spencer Walpole in 1902, occur such spellings as these: *coud* and *cou'd*, *woud* and *wou'd*, *shoud* and *shou'd*, *tho* and *tho'*, *thro'*, *echos*, *ecchoed*, *hagled*.

But Walpole also conformed to spellings that were archaic even in his time. For example: *Beautiful*, *dreadfull*, *gratefull*, *usefull*, *respectfull*, *litterally*, *mimickry*, *sollicit*, *sollicitation*.

Horace Walpole was fond of Gallic words and phrases; but he was not afraid of spelling them like an Englishman. Thus he wrote to Thomas Walpole, December 29, 1780: "I took that opportunity of writing to him a mighty grateful letter, which I showed to your Son, in hopes of peaking his generosity, à la bonne heure!" Evidently he did not 'peak' himself on a servile conformity to French 'pique.'

## S. S. IN N. S. NORMAL COLLEGE

The *Normal College Gazette*, a periodical published by the students of the Provincial Normal College of Nova Scotia, at Truro, has adopted simplified spelling. In the October number, 1913, we find in the first few pages the spellings: *opend, elapst, fysical, husht, hartj, alredy, plesant, practis, wrapt, packt, coverd, exceld, discoverd, enjoyd, mold, altho, endeavor, kild.*

The students are not opposed to *thot*. Their editorials are, indeed, full of *thot*.

The official Calendar of the college for 1913-14, bears on the title-page this statement:

The departures from traditional spelling found in these pages are in accord with the present recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board of the English-speaking peoples.

On page 25 is this statement:

Even if there were one accepted standard of English sounds, it would be well-nigh impossible to promulgate it except thru the medium of a fonetic alphabet constructed for that special purpose. Of late years progress has been made toward the adoption of such an alphabet to take the place of the old systems of key-words and diacritical marks; and in both England and America it is recognized that the time has come for the analytic study of English sounds, to such an extent at least as will render a fonetic alphabet of service to the users of pronouncing dictionaries. In Canada, where there is a growing tendency towards nasality and guttural quality, and an indifference to the quality and quantity of vowel-sounds and to the distinct utterance of word-endings, the importance of specific study of English fonology is not likely to be overrated.

On page 26 this paragraph occurs:

In the strictly *normal* course, pains will be taken to impart the most economical methods of teaching reading to children. The English alphabet will be carefully investigated, and its alphabetic anomalies noted for the benefit of primary teachers. In this connection it should be remarked that the Normal College is not authorized to enforce the reformed orthography of the Spelling Societies, but that it regards it as within its province to keep its students abreast of the present widespread movement for reform of the cumbrous and wasteful system inherited from an ill-informed past.

## MORE DESTRUCTION

From recent reports we learn that any change in English spelling will still "destroy English etymology." That has been said, within six months, by more than one person, who, for some reason (some other reason than that!) holds the chair of English in a college or university — and receives a salary for teaching English.

One professor in a minor college varied the statement. He said he was inclined to favor the movement for the simplification of English spelling, but he did not want to "destroy the study

of English etymology." Now between destroying etymology and destroying the study of it, there is, we hope, a difference. We have, however, never seen either of these two things done, and we do not know how it is done.

## THE QUEST FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

The *Reed College Quest*, a periodical published by the students of Reed College, Portland, Ore., began in the September number (Vol. 1, No. 11, 1913), to use a considerable number of simplified spellings. On the first page it bears these spellings, among others: *Leveling, practis, playd, definit, thru, enlightend, governd, servd, servis, thoroly, establisht, catalog, cataloging, shelvs, redy, alredy, heded, publisht, executiv, campaign, administrativ, helpt, genuin*, and the like; and more, on other pages.

At the head of the editorial page is this note: "Certain words in the news and editorial columns of this paper are spelled according to the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board."

## SIX MORALS AND A NEWS ITEM

The *Pioneer* for September, 1913, prints the following poem in the following spelling:

A farmer when going to plough,  
Met another man drieving a cough;  
Hu sed sumthing that led tu a rough,  
When thair dogz began tu bough-[w]ough,  
And the farmer got hit on the brough,  
And had tu be taicen in tough.

Beside the six morals that may be drawn from this poem, we get the information that in Great Britain the word spelled *tow* is, by some persons, commonly pronounced to rhyme with *cow* and not with *low*. We can not say, to rhyme with *bow*, or *mow*, or *row*, or *sow*, for those words are ready to take either side. In America the word spelled *tow* is pronounced as if it were spelled *to*, that being pronounced, for this occasion, to rhyme with *so* and *wo*. Behold the admirable simplicity of the conventional English spelling! All you have to do is to write it, and then to explain it, in three or four words, or in three or four sentences, or in three or four paragraphs; and if the reader then understands, the thing is done. How much richer this is than simply spelling the word and letting the reader know, without an expensive education, what the spelling means! Education should mean difficulty; and we can arrive at true learning only by zigzag paths.

## PROPER SPELLING FOR PROPER NAMES

A correspondent asks us if we could not "print some recommendations relativ to surnames before long." It will be some time before the Simplified Spelling Board or the Simplified Spelling Society shal find it expedient to make any recommendations on that subject; but individual members of the Board may, with good reason, make such recommendations. It is a fact that the spelling of English surnames, and of all proper names, is arcaic, irregular and inaccurate, disgraceful to English scholarship, and inconsistent with the methods of education in the English-speaking world. The subject must be approacht from the scientific point of view, but the names must be treated tenderly. It is commonly supposed that the present spelling of English names has always been what it is now, and that the names of places and of families hav remaind from the beginning unchanged. Of course, any one who has lookt up the genealogy of any family beyond one hundred years or so, has met facts to the contrary; but, by treating all variant spellings as "illiterate" or "erroneus," and *changing* them to a preferd form, it is then easy to make out that one's family name has always remaind unchanged from the beginning. A little history would flutter these doves.

## S. S. IN THE SOUTH

Apart from the interest in simplified spelling shown by the Virginia State Teachers' Association, there is much attention shown to the subject, thruout that State, by individual teachers and others. The Rev. J. B. Spiers of Richmond, Va., makes regular missionary tours in behalf of his church thruout the Southern States, with Richmond as his headquarters. He takes frequent occasion to address meetings, not only about other reformatory and educational movements, but particularly in regard to the movement of the regulation of English spelling. He finds everywhere a groing interest in the movement, and a desire to be better informd about it.

Professor Patterson Wardlaw, and other teachers in the universities and scools of South Carolina, hav aided the Board in bringing the subject to the attention of all the teachers of the State, to whom has been sent individually the necessary information, or who hav been addrest at meetings by different advocates of the cause.

In Tennessee, Professor J. I. D. Hinds, and other promoters of the cause, hav pursued the same policy, with the same moderate, but sure, success.

## THE UNPOPULAR REVIEW

A new quarterly review will be publisht by Henry Holt and Company, New York, beginning in January, 1914. Subscription \$2.75 per annum. It is to be cald *The Unpopular Review*. As the title indicates, the purpose of the review is to state the truth even in those matters of public concern in which the truth is unpopular. But when nothing prevents, it will be optimistic.

Among the disagreeable truths which the editor proposes to publish, even at the risk of making *The Unpopular Review* interesting, ar the truths of English spelling. We understand that there wil be articles on the subject, with exemplifications of simplified spelling that wil not only compel attention from the man in the street, but wil startle adventurus men, and cause them to look at each other with a wild surmise, and snatch a fearful joy. If this program is carried out, we fear that it wil weaken the force of the happy title, and leave the publishers stil content when the title becomes untru.

## A CLOSED INCIDENT

The Sydney (Nova Scotia) *Daily Post* of May 13, 1913, containd a long letter by Dr. David Soloman, of the Provincial Normal College, Truro, N. S., in advocacy of simplified spelling. The *Post* replied in an editorial in the same issue. Dr. Soloman responded; and his letter, with an other reply from the *Post*, was publisht May 21.

The editor of the *Post* was inclined to call upon the authorities of the state to suppress Dr. Soloman, or the college of which he is principal, or at least to suppress the simplified spellings which he has mentiond or used in that institution. But in his letter of June 13, Dr. Soloman had "some more to say about simplified spelling," as the headlines put it; and the editor replied, abandoning the notion of putting Dr. Soloman under disciplin, and ending as follows:

With Principal Soloman's private views on the spelling question or any other subject we are not concerned, and, now that he states that he is not trying, in his official capacity, to unsettle the standard of spelling which has been fixed by usage and common consent, we may regard the incident as closed.

But we hope that Dr. Soloman and the editor of the *Post* wil open more incidents.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

The *Pioneer*, the organ of the Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain, records each month a list of additions to its membership. The November number announces that the membership of the Society numbers 1,835. They pay.

The Detroit (Mich.) *Daily Times News* heds an important item of news from New York: "Suffragets March Through N. Y. Streets." But why did a man who was bold enuf thus to reduce the 'suffragettes,' shrink from reducing also the decrepit and unmilitant 'through'? The dispatch ends: "Seven thousand women and fifteen hundred men were in line." We may expect that in the future many more than seven thousand women and fifteen hundred men will be in line for the principle exhibited in 'suffraget' for 'suffragette,' and in 'thru' for 'through.' Many 'coquettes' hav been subdued into 'coquets,' and the 'aigrettes' they wear to 'aigrets.'

Simplified spelling of the advanst kind used by the Simplified Spelling Society is making its appearance in London advertizements. Thus, an advertizing company puts forth the folloing advertizement: "Even the Hen Caclz and the Coc Croez. Everibodi Advertiezez. Maic your privait and biznes anounsments by meens of TIEPRITEN LETERS." And so on. All in this new spelling. But the advertizers kindly ad: "When nesesari, we prodyus leterz in the oeld-fashond speling."

The Benjamin Harris Company, of the Bowery, New York, advertizes "Fotographic Novelties, Metal Sawyers, and Fotografic Jewelry." But why not "Fotografic?"

The Central Foundry Company, 90 West street, New York, has printed a little booklet, "Universal Pipe in Service," in simplified spelling. It submitted the copy to the Simplified Spelling Board to be revised for such simplification. Many firms hav done this, and, so far as we kno, not one has had any occasion to regret it. A certain amount of simplified spelling has been found to be of some value for purely advertizing purposes—we mean apart from freakish spellings, which may attract for a moment, but can not permanently please readers or customers. Simplified spellings, seriously considerd and regularly kept up, hav been found to be both useful and agreeable.

A new (the seventh) edition of Circular No. 16 of the Simplified Spelling Board was issued September 30. This circular contains the names and addresses of the members of the Board, including the five gentlemen whose election was announst September 25, and a list of the publications of the Board.

At the State Capitol of Wisconsin, while it was undergoing repairs, a sign was put up, stating that "The only entrances to the building are thru the east and west wings." We understand that some persons fiercely refused to go *thru* the east and west wings, and consequently lost the inestimable privilege of seeing and hearing the State legislators. It is a fine thing to stand up for principle, but it is a finer thing to go *thru* on principle.

## A PLEA FOR MERCY

A conservativ gentleman rote a letter to the editor of the *Northern Scot*, expressing the opinion that it would be "more patriotic to cling to the romantic and poetic orthography laboriously perfected by our predecessors and enshrined in the works of Shakespeare and the brilliant galaxy of literary talent who have made English famous all over the civilized world." He added: "A plausible case, I know, can be made out against a few words of the language, but who would be so unjust as to condemn all for the faults of a few?"

Could any one but a patriot see "injustis" to a "word" in the proposal to spel it correctly? And could even a patriot find the present "romantic and poetic" spelling "enshrined in the works of Shakespeare,"—if he should ever see those works?

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## BROOKLYN S. R. S. MEETING ◀

The Brooklyn Spelling Reform Society held a meeting February 20. Prof. Joseph Bowden presided. Addresses were made by Prof. William L. Felter, principal of the Girls' High School, by Dr. C. P. G. Scott, and by Mr. Charles S. Carrington.

Prof. Felter's theme was "Thoughts Suggested by the Brooklyn *Eagle's* Spelling Bee." He expressed the opinion that such spelling bees, preceded, as in this case, by a large amount of preparation in the separate schools, are a great waste of time and energy, not only taking the time actually employed in the contests, but also demoralizing the whole school, and distracting the attention of the pupils from the important subjects of study. The waste is still greater in view of the fact that all this effort is merely to force pupils to learn a great number of irregular and anomalous spellings that ought not to be used, and ought not to be taught at all.

Dr. Scott spoke on "English Spelling in English Literature." The English spellings contained in the works of English writers differ according to the period in which the works were written. The common editions of 'standard authors' do not present a true or an accurate picture of English literature, either as to the words or as to the spelling. If any one really loves the English spelling that is in English literature, he can not also love the spelling that is in recent spelling-books and newspapers.

Mr. Carrington presented, with appropriate comments, the series of lantern slides, mentioned on an other page, showing photographs of pages of important works in English literature, from Caxton, 1489, to Milton, 1667. These pages show many varieties of spelling, and bring out the fact that many older spellings are the same as those

now advocated by the promoters of the movement for the simplification of English spelling.

The addresses were followed by discussions, in which Prof. Bowden, the president of the society, Edward E. Cauthorne, Josephus C. Lipes, William J. Morrison, principal of Public School 73, and other speakers, took part. All the opinion went one way. But of course a great many dissenters were elsewhere.

## THE M. L. A. AND S. S.

The Central Division of the Modern Language Association at Cincinnati, December 31, 1913, discussed the movement for the simplification of English spelling, especially in connection with efforts in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, and adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, 1: That the Central Division of the Modern Language Association of America favors the movement for the reform of English Orthography.

2: That the Central Division requests the Executive Council for the year 1914-1915 to consider the whole subject of the further reform of English orthography and to make recommendations to the Association at the union meeting to be held in 1915.

The Modern Language Association at its meeting in Cambridge, at the same time, adopted a resolution asking the Executive Committee to take a post-card vote of the members upon the continuance of the use of simplified spelling in its publications. This motion, which reflects the attitude of the minority (at least the minority of the members who attend meetings and vote), was not opposed by the majority, i. being obviously fair to consult the whole Association upon all matters of continued controversy. Any educational or scientific movement that can not stand repeated consideration by scholars must take the consequences.

## MISSOURI AND KANSAS

Mr. Henry Gallup Paine, editor of the *BULLETIN*, recently made a missionary tour of Missouri and Kansas (Feb. 4—March 8). He visited in succession the following institutions:

In Missouri: University of Missouri, Columbia; State Normal School, Kirksville; Christian College, and Stephens College, Columbia; State Normal School, Warrensburg; State Normal School, Maryville; Park College, Parkville; Missouri Valley College, Marshall.

In Kansas: Friends University, Wichita; State Normal School, Emporia; Washburn College, Topeka; University of Kansas, Lawrence.

In Missouri again: William Jewell College, Liberty; Central Wesleyan College, Warrenton; Washington University, St. Louis University, and Harris Teachers College, St. Louis; Missouri School of Mines, Rolla; State Normal School, Drury College, and Springfield High School, Springfield; and State Normal School, Cape Girardeau.

He held conferences on simplified spelling with the faculties of the State Normal Schools at Warrensburg, Maryville, Springfield and Cape Girardeau, Mo.; and with the faculties of Christian College, Stephens College, Park College, Missouri Valley College, Washington University, St. Louis University, Drury College, and Springfield High School, Mo.; addressed the faculty and students of Friends University, and Washburn College, Kan., and of William Jewell College, Mo.; addressed advanced English classes in the State Normal School, Emporia, Kan.; and in Central Wesleyan College, and the State School of Mines, Mo.; conferred with President John R. Kirk, of the State Normal School at Kirksville, Mo.; and with Principal John W. Withers, of Harris Teachers College, St. Louis, Mo.; and with the leading friends of simplified spelling in the faculties of the University of Missouri and the University of Kansas.

He accompanied Dean W. W. Charters, of the School of Education, University of Missouri, to the annual convention of the Southern Kansas Teachers' Association (Feb. 20-21), at Wichita, Kan.; and addressed the convention on "Authority for Simplified Spelling," just before the introduction and passage of the resolution (printed on page 45) urging the Kansas State School Book Commission to adopt simplified spelling in all Kansas school text-books.

He interviewed many of the leading educators in both States, including State Superintendent William L. Evans, and former State Superinten-

dents J. M. Greenwood, and Howard A. Gass, editor of the *Missouri School Journal*, of Missouri; and former State Superintendent John MacDonald, of Kansas, editor of the *Western School Journal*; as well as the proprietors and editors of several important newspapers.

Wherever he had an opportunity to obtain from a faculty an expression of opinion in regard to simplified spelling, he found it to be strongly favorable. In places where he did not obtain an expression of opinion, he left the questionnaire mentioned on this page. In most cases he found that opposition to the movement was based on some misapprehension as to its nature or purpose. These misapprehensions were corrected by a few words of explanation, and by the distribution of appropriate circulars of information and argument. Local committees in both States are conducting organized campaigns of information in cooperation with the Board.

## MISSOURI QUESTIONS

A committee, consisting of Professors Edward A. Allen, Henry M. Belden, Werrett Wallace Charters, and Robert Lee Ramsay, of the University of Missouri, and Dr. John R. Kirk, President of the First District Normal School, Kirksville, has sent out to all the city and county superintendents of Missouri, to the presidents of the universities, colleges, and normal schools of the state, and to other prominent educators, the following questionnaire:

- Are you in favor of simplified spelling?
- Do you use it in your correspondence?
- Will you take an active part in the movement?
- Do you desire circulars of information?
- If unfavorable, on what grounds are you opposed?

Somewhat similar questionnaires have been sent, with a note of explanation, to the faculty of the University of Missouri, and to the faculties of the five state normal schools, at Kirksville, Warrensburg, Springfield, Cape Girardeau, and Maryville. The questions have been favorably answered by most of those who have so far responded. The returns from the questionnaires will be published when known.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

EDWIN M. HOPKINS, professor of rhetoric and English literature in the University of Kansas, and DEWITT C. CROISSANT, director of the University Extension Division of the same University were elected members of the Advisory Council of the Simplified Spelling Board at the meeting of the Executive Committee, held March 11, 1914.

## THE LONDON EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

A great educational conference was held in London the first week in January, 1914. Twenty-one educational societies of Great Britain were represented. Among them was the Simplified Spelling Society, which had a place on the program, and which held its first annual meeting, January 5, at London University. At this meeting Sir William Ramsay, Prof. W. Rippmann and other distinguished persons made addresses. The conference was opened with a great meeting at which James Bryce, now Viscount Bryce, recently the British Ambassador at Washington, spoke on "Salient Educational Issues." "He put in the forefront of his address a plea for the inclusion in the school curriculum of moral training based on religious principles. Bible and religious instruction, he declared, must not be left out of the schools."

He acknowledged the difficulty of adjusting religious and moral teaching in schools, and said that "simplification of spelling would, perhaps, be accomplished before the difficulty in regard to religious teaching in schools is solved." Then, speaking on this subject, he said that "simplified spelling would be worth millions to British trade as a time-saving business proposition."

The British newspapers contained full accounts of this educational conference and of the meeting of the Simplified Spelling Society. A resolution was adopted, calling upon the Board of Education to summon a conference on English standard speech.

The Simplified Spelling Society is working also for the appointment of a Government commission on the whole subject. A "monster petition" is in preparation, and an other international conference in London is planned for this year.

## A FEBRUARY 'THAUGH'

A professor of Greek in a Michigan college, who is said to be somewhat cold toward simplified spelling, lately received the following bill from his affluent plumber: "For thaughing water-pipe—\$1.50." When he saugh this affluent spelling, he cried "O pshaugh!" and then burst into a loud guffaugh. It is said that his severity began to melt from that hour; and it is thought now that this way of laying down the laugh of English spelling will lead the professor to see the flaugh in his previous reasoning, and persuade him to withdraugh his opposition to the

flo of reform. This will cost nothing, and thus he will have the laugh on the plumber. And the reader will draugh the moral.

This is a true story, notwithstanding the price charged by the plumber—"\$.150." Some scholars suspect the claughs, and conjecture "\$150.00." But that would make the professor hot.

## ILLINOIS COLLEGES

Simplified spelling continues to make headway among the colleges of Illinois. In addition to the University of Illinois and Northwestern University, whose favorable action has already been recorded in the BULLETIN, the following institutions have also voted to adopt the First List, with specified exceptions, not always identical:

Greenville College, Greenville; Hedding College, Abingdon; Illinois Woman's College, Jacksonville; James Millikin University, Decatur; Knox College, and Lombard College, Galesburg; Monmouth College, Monmouth; St. Viator College, Bourbonnais; Wheaton College, Wheaton.

Some of these colleges have adopted the simplifications unconditionally, while others have conditioned the adoption of the simplifications on like action by a majority of the colleges in the Illinois Federation.

Loyola University, Chicago, has "approved" a similar list; Augustana College, Rock Island, and Carthage College, Carthage, have voted to adopt any list of simplifications approved by two-thirds of all the colleges in the Federation; North-Western College, Naperville, has adopted the Twelve Words; and Illinois College, Jacksonville, has adopted "spellings recommended by the Standard Dictionary, edition of 1899."

## INLAND EMPIRE COMMITTEE

The following are the members of the Committee on Simplified Spelling of the Inland Empire Teachers' Association, which have in view, and in intent, the conversion of the teachers and public of the great Northwest to the idea and practice of a rational spelling:

WILLIAM T. FOSTER, President of Reed College, Portland, Oregon, Chairman.

EDWARD O. SISSON, Commissioner of Education of Idaho, Boise, Idaho.

N. D. SHOWALTER, Principal of the State Normal School, Cheney, Washington.

J. S. LANDERS, Superintendent of Schools, Pendleton, Oregon.

O. L. LUTHER, Principal of the Queen Anne High School, Seattle, Washington.

## PHI

Persons who do not like the notion of spelling words that contain the sound of *f*, with an *f*, will be pleased to have authority for substituting their favorite *ph* in such words. Thus Thomas Wilson in his 'Arte of Rhetorique' (1560, later edition 1585, repr. 1909, p. 52), spells *infant* with a *ph*, and by his very words seems to protest against murdering that spelling: "There is no nation so sauage, nor yet so hard harted within the whole worlde, but the same abhorreth murdering of Inphants, and new borne babes."

And Shakespeare, who, if he is not to be accepted as authority for simple and rational spelling, will be enthusiastically received as authority for irrational spelling, uses several times the spelling *phang*, which we expect our opponents to receive with more or less delight, as being a more ferocious spelling of that word. And there are *prophane* (Latimer 1549, Puttenham 1589, Bible 1611, Ben Jonson 1616, Sir T. Browne 1642, Watts 1741, Rogers 1798, etc.), *phanatick*, and other words beautifully spelled with a *ph* to which they have no right. We commend these to the friends of phalse orthography as phine examples of this sort of pholly. And by all means let them restore *fancy*, *fantasy* and *fantastic* to the 'Greek' forms to which they are entitled—*phansy*, *phantasy*, *phantastique*. These last forms, when used, will show the vast extent of your Greek learning; whereas *fancy* leaves your reader to think that you are merely an ordinary sensible person.

## THE IDEAL SPELLING

We have received an announcement of "The Ideal Speller" by Edgar Lincoln Willard and Frances Ward Richards, published by E. P. Dutton and Co., New York. The announcement contains these statements: "Much time has been wasted in the schoolroom teaching children to spell 'trick' words that they will never use. 'Chalcedony', 'poignancy', 'saponacious' [sic] are not essential to a grammar school child's vocabulary. The ideal speller should teach them to spell and use correctly all *necessary* words; The Ideal Speller aims to do this."

Another paragraph is: "It is quite evident that, in the past, all pupils have been taught to spell many words they would never use. And it is equally evident that pupils have not been thoroughly taught how to use words they were

required to spell. Is it not high time to introduce a speller that shall teach only the most useful words, and at the same time establish them in the child's vocabulary?"

The announcement cites, with approval, an opinion that the "two-words-a-day method is the ideal way to teach spelling". Perhaps so. But instead of trying to find an ideal way of teaching the common spelling, why not try to bring about an ideal spelling that can be learned, not two words a day, but the whole thing in two weeks or two months? 'Two words a day' means memorizing two words, and then two more words, and so on. A rational plan would subordinate the memory to reason, and would, in effect, teach the child how to spell all the words without a laborious memorizing of each.

## NEKST!

Dr. G. B. Hunter, one of the leading advocates of the movement in Great Britain for making English spelling more rational, thus questions the sacred law of external uniformity:

It would be a great service to the spelling reform movement, if instead of only trying to introduce new systems of uniform spelling, attempts were made towards breaking the common idea that it is important that everyone should spell alike; and to teach the English speaking people that it is of little importance whether they all spell alike or not, provided that the spelling they use clearly indicates the right pronunciation of the word. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, people of the highest rank spelled as they chose, and were quite right in doing so. It is not of the least importance whether we spell 'box' b-o-x or b-o-k-s, and 'next' would be just as good and as easy to read if spelled n-e-k-s-t.

## GRINNELL COLLEGE GOES ON RECORD

The faculty of Grinnell College, Iowa, adopted March 2, 1914, a resolution approving the use of a number of simplified spellings in the official publications of the college. The list adopted consists of the Three Hundred Words, with the omission of the preterit forms in *-t*, as *dropt*, *snapt*, *crost*, etc.

The list is substantially the same as the list adopted by some other institutions—in effect, a formal acceptance of the simpler spellings preferred in the principal American dictionaries. The only significant additions are *altho*, *tho*, *thoro*; but this action opens the way for the adoption of some of the other simplifications recommended by the Board.

## IN THE EDUCATIONAL WORLD

A conference of representatives of the colleges, and of the University, of Michigan, was held at the State capital, Lansing, February 13, 1914, to consider what action should be taken by the institutions represented, in promotion of the movement for the regulation of English spelling. A favorable resolution was adopted, which is expected to lead to favorable action by the colleges and the University.

Professor A. Gideon, of the University of Wyoming, has made several short tours in that State and in Colorado, in the interest of simplified spelling. He spoke at the annual meeting of the Wyoming State Teachers' Association at Kemmerer, Wyoming, December 29-31. The movement has some support among the members of the faculty of the University of Wyoming. The students' weekly, the *Wyoming Student*, has come out in favor of the movement. The numbers for January 28 and February 25 contained articles by J. Francis MacBride, calling upon Wyoming University to take the lead in this great educational movement. The number for February 25 had an article by Prof. Gideon ("Reform, not Innovation") pointing out the simplified spellings in Tennyson's "Enoch Arden."

Prof. Hinds, of Cumberland University, is sending out a set of questions concerning simplified spelling to the county and city superintendents, the presidents of colleges, universities and normal schools, the principals of high schools, and to a large number of professors and teachers of Tennessee. The trend of opinion in Tennessee among the teachers is favorable. Thru Professor Hinds and others they have been pretty well informed on the subject, and have adopted resolutions of the most exemplary kind.

At a convention of the teachers of the Red Deer Inspectorate held in Innisfail, Alberta, October 16 and 17, G. W. McKenzie, B.A., Principal of the Red Deer High School, gave a very carefully prepared address on simplified spelling. A spirited and profitable discussion followed, indicating that the teachers took a lively interest in the matter. (J. F. B.)

Dr. William T. Foster spoke at the meeting of the Washington State Teachers' Association at Spokane, Washington, January, 1914. A resolution was then adopted by the 2,000 teachers in attendance commending the work of the Simplified Spelling Board and favoring the use of the

shorter and simpler forms in the schools of the state. Over three hundred teachers at the meeting of the Spokane County Teachers' Institute past a similar resolution, with only three dissenting votes.

## KANSAS RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board of Education of Wichita, Kansas, adopted (Jan. 5, 1914) a resolution "earnestly recommending and urgently requesting" the Kansas State School Book Commission to follow the list of Three Hundred Words contained in Circular No. 15 of the Simplified Spelling Board.

The Sedgwick County Teachers' Association, at a meeting held in Wichita, Jan. 17, past a similarly worded resolution; and the Southern Kansas Teachers' Association, embracing nine counties, at its annual meeting, held in Wichita, Feb. 20-21, with an attendance of more than six hundred, took similar action (Feb. 21), only eight members voting in the negative. The resolution adopted by the Southern Kansas Teachers' Association was offered by Prof. William L. Pearson. It is as follows:

We, the teachers of Southern Kansas Teachers' Association, at our annual meeting, have considered the subject of Simplified Spelling, and we are convinced that thorough reform of English orthography has become a matter of vital importance to the hundreds of thousands of children in our public schools, and

Knowing the great progress which has been made in simplification in several of the Midland States, and continues to be made from year to year and from month to month, and

Seeing the National Education Association and many State Teachers' Associations, together with a number of State normal schools and colleges and universities of various States, have adopted and are increasingly adopting considerable portions of the system of simplification which has been promoted for a number of years by the Simplified Spelling Board, and

Being aware that the present Kansas School Laws provide for the adoption of textbooks for the public schools of the State for a period of five years,

We, therefore, respectfully and earnestly recommend to the Kansas State School Book Commissioners, and we do at this time, by resolution and vote, urgently request them, to adopt, in the textbooks which they shall choose for the Kansas Schools, the simplest forms of the "Three Hundred Words Spelled in Two or More Ways," together with the rules governing same, as they appear in "Circular No. 15," issued by the Simplified Spelling Board, November 28, 1907.

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

The Council of the University of North Dakota has decided to adopt for use in all the University publications, and in the official correspondence of the University, the list of simplified forms now being used in the *Quarterly Journal* of the University. These simplifications include a considerable part of the Alfabetic List. This action has been accelerated by the good example of the editor of the *Quarterly*

*Journal*, Prof. A. J. Ladd, who has, with the approval of the authorities, been using these spellings in that magazine for several years. This is the secret of reform. Use simplified spellings, and after a while you will adopt them.

### REASONABLE REGULATION

*Collier's* for January 24, 1914, in an article entitled "On Spelling as You Please", speaks of "the recurrence in our correspondence of letters in which 'thru', 'bot', and sometimes 'husht' and 'diminisht', and the like, are seen." It is not worried at this groing recurrence of improved spellings. Indeed, the editor asks: "Why observe any laws in spelling? Why not throw down all regulations?" He ads: "There was no need for the Elizabethan child to pore over the spelling book. As he pronounced, he spelt." And he thinks it made for originality: "In the olden time we had originality in literature as well as in spelling."

There is something in this. But we need not "throw down all regulations". What we need to do is to adopt some regulation—a reasonable and convenient system which all can soon learn, and apply without hesitation or uncertainty. There ar, in short, too many regulations, with too little regulation.

### "HONO[U]R"

To do an hono[u]r to your old bald pate.

—1819 KEATS, Ben Nevis (Complete poetical works, Oxford, 1907, p. 333).

The editor, Mr. H. B. Forman, prints Keats's ms. 'honor' as above, "hono[u]r"—no dout for the 'honour' of English literature. In the same poem he prints Keats's 'dam'd' as "dam[n]d" (p. 334), 'Aligators' as "Al[l]igators" (p. 335), and 'wiskey' as "w[h]iskey" (p. 334; also in a note, p. 333). Yet in the other poems the same editor kindly allows Keats to retain his spellings *dipt*, *dropt*, *crost*, *kist*, *prest*, *stept*, etc.

### LIV AND LET LIV

A Boston bookseller puts forth what is cald on the title-page, "Goodspeed's Catalogue of Standard Sets and Miscellaneous Books." Having thus paid due deference to the antiquated spelling *catalogue*, the bookseller, tho a Boston bookseller, adopts on page 4 the modern spelling *catalog*. This happens often in booksellers' catalogs. The antiquated and the modern spelling occur in different places, according to the accidents of compilation. This shoes that the compilers hav sense enuf not to be

disturbd by the appearance of two spellings in a catalog. Indeed, a book catalog that would not admit a diversity of spellings, according to the historic facts, would be a series of printed falsehoods. But why should you try to quench the minds of your fello-men? You may, if you choose, in your own works, ignore *catalog* and other modern spellings; but you can not wholly suppress them in the works of other men. Why not let both spellings exist, since both ar approved by respectable persons? If both ar tolerated, the better one wil in the end be calmly chosen, and the other one wil calmly retire.

### RANGLE

Till we fish entangle . . .  
Fishers must not rangle.

—1653 WALTON, *The Compleat Angler* (repr. 1869), p. 92.

### THE BEGINNINGS OF LOVE

In a recent volume by Ralph Nevill, entitled, "Fancies, Fashions, and Fads," this old anecdote is revived, referring to fashionable society of the eighteenth century:

Playing at the old parlour game of "I love my love with a letter," three ladies—Ladies Cheere, Fielding, and Hill—are supposed to have answered as follows:

"I love," began the first, "my love with an N, because he is a night." Lady Fielding followed with: "I love my love with a G, because he is a gustice," and Lady Hill ended with "I love my love with an F, because he is a fisishun."

### WIL NOT CUM OUT OF THE WET

The *Baptist Times and Freeman* of London says:

Many voices are urging upon us the importance of the reform and simplification of our English spelling. We cheerfully admit all that the reformers say, and refuse to do anything.

This *Baptist* does not see the matter in the dry light of reason; is not up to the *Times*; and cheerfully remains in bondage. But then it mentions with approval some old spellings in the 16th century versions of the Bible, which, if revived, it says, "would immensely simplify our spelling."

### WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE ON S. S.

The members of the State Committee on Simplified Spelling of the Washington State Teachers' Association lately appointed ar: Mr. O. E. SPERLIN, hed of the English Department, Tacoma High Scool; Miss SARA WEISMAN, Hawthorne Scool, Spokane; Mr. N. E. HINCH, Cheney; Mr. D. H. WOLFLE, Port Orchard; and Miss ANNA B. KANE, Coleman Scool, Seattle.

## S. S. IN THE PRES

The Laramie (Wyo.) *Boomerang* announst, January 12, 1914, that it has adopted the use of a number of simplified spellings. The Laramie *Republican* has printed several favorable articles on the subject. The Kemmerer (Wyo.) *Camera* has done the same.

The *Livingston Tidings*, which appears three times a week at Howell, Mich., is using some simplified spellings. It announst its purpose by the warlike slogan, "Why Not Wage War on Webster? Modern Times Require Modern Methods—Let 's Spell Easy."

The *Daily News* of Truro, Nova Scotia, continues the use of simplified spellings. The issue for January 10, 1914, contains such spellings as *telegraf*, *nativ*, *locomotiv*, *thruout*, *theater*, *destroyd*, *orderd*, *receivd*, *addrest*, *pickt*, *servises*, *offisers*, *defense*, *hart*, *deth*.

What happens to the readers of such newspapers when they see such spellings? Do they go into a fit? Do they expire with mortification? Do they die in a rage? Do they go, angry and armd, to see the editor? It appears not. They read the news that comes by "telegraf"; they read the "paragrafs" and editorials, understand them, use them for what they ar worth, and go about their business. That is, they accept the daily simplified spellings as a normal part of their daily life. To them *offis*, *servis*, seem as natural as *trellis* or *canvas*; *telegraf* seems as natural as *graft* or *craft*; *nativ*, *examin*, *engin*, seem as natural as *habit*, *satin*, *Latin*.

And what do the compositors say? Singular as it may seem, many compositors ar just as able to set up *nativ* as to set up *native*. They ar no more puzzled by *examin* than they ar by *examine*. They can set up *locomotiv* with the greatest ease, and they kno what that word means, just as easily as they kno what *locomotive* means. This may seem, to some jurnalists, incredible erudition. But the facts may be proved. The compositors ar in existence, and they wil make affidavit to these facts.

The *Normal School Quarterly* of the Illinois State Normal University continues the use of simplified spelling. It is sent out accompanied by a leaflet containing, on one side, "Rules for Simplified Spelling," and on the other, "Some Simplified Spellings Approved by the Simplified Spelling Board." Among the forms included in a recent number ar some that come under the

Fourth List, publisht by the Board in 1913. Thus, *advanst*, *geografy*, *oceanografy*, *emfasis*.

We hav not herd of any serius objection raised in any quarter to these spellings. The common objection that simplified spellings make the page look queer, or make it unintelligible, or at least difficult to read, ar probably made, but ar seen to be unwarranted when one opens these pages.

When the students see these spellings all around them, when prospectiv students see them in the catalogs that ar sent to them, they can not be repeld in the same way as older persons, with literary traditions and preferences, may be repeld. They hav not been so fortunate as to hav accumulated so large a store of picturesque and irrational ideas. So, when their reason comes to decide between the qualities of, say, *activ* or *active*, *dropt* or *dropped*, their reason acts without interference, and therefore comes to a just conclusion; while the man of fifty can giv many causes, which he wil call reasons, for preferring the antique forms.

The Lake Placid Club publishes a little monthly, *Club Notes*, with numerus half-tones of Adirondack scenery. The Club uses all the recommendations of the Simplified Spelling Board, and has now equipt its own printing offis and wil publish in each number a page or more shoing how the most promising suggestions for further simplification actually look in cold type. No one can tel from theory or manuscript, nor even from type-written specimens, just how new spellings wil affect the eye. The test is to see them in print. From its organization 20 years ago the Lake Placid Club has advocated and used simpler spellings. It has equipt its new printery with the new letters as used in the Standard Dictionary. It is printing these specimen pages, shoing varius degrees of simplification, to enable those interested to select what they wil adopt for their own use. It offers to send the monthly *Club Notes* free to any one enuf interested to send the postage, 12 cents a year. Address Press, Lake Placid Club, Essex Co., N. Y. (M. D.)

The Idaho *Statesman* of December 31, 1913, in reporting Dr. Foster's address before the State Teachers' Association, puts at the top of the article, in loud capitals, "IDAHO SPELLING OLD FASHIONED, SAYS FOSTER." The loer-case part of the article begins "It's simplified spelling for Idaho from now on." Just as soon as Idaho heard its spelling was old-fashiond, it wanted the new style.

## SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BULLETIN

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## PROGRESS

The Simplified Spelling Society of Great Britain continues to draw much attention from the British public. The newspapers contain many editorials, contributions, letters, and explosions of individual spirit. Tho the proposal to regulate the spelling of the English language has aroused some journals to demonstrations reminding us of "the red fool-fury of the Seine," the furious articles are relatively few. The general tone is not favorable, but it is as temperate as in any other public controversy; and there is apparently no general desire to suppress or to distort the facts.

The Simplified Spelling Society, having sufficient support among its own adherents for a somewhat systematic tho provisional plan of simplification, has been able to bring out the varying views and to secure a serious discussion of the plan. American reformers have not come to a definite agreement upon a plan covering all words. This can not be done without adopting notations for the long vowels and the diphthongs. Individuals have their views of what solution is desirable or possible. All the possible plans are known; but until it becomes clear that a majority, or at least a strong minority, will support a given solution, that solution must be postponed.

But every month brings a solution nearer. The success thus far attained by the Board in the adoption of a considerable number of simpler forms by many thousand persons throughout the United States, and the success of the British society in obtaining the paying support of more than two thousand members, in full view of a somewhat radical policy, are significant.

One fact is very significant in the American situation. The Simplified Spelling Board put forth a year ago (March, 1913) the Fourth List of recommended simplifications—the first really "radical," really "innovating," set of proposals published by the Board. This list was almost

unanimously approved by the Board; it has now been before the general body of the supporters of the cause for a full year, and there has been almost no objection among them. The list was received even by the newspapers with much less hostility than the previous lists. The list has been adopted by some institutions for official use in their publications; and not a few persons have said, "You have now given us something to work with." They have always had something to work with; but one group wants more, another less. Circumstances and temperament may make any stage of advance acceptable to a given group.

Of course there is opposition, but it does not express itself in a definite form. The definite expressions are from those who wish to see something more, and to approach the goal that is sought by the British society—some notation that will reach some of the remaining irregular spellings. Whether these forward views are right or wrong (and some of them are vague enough), it is certain that the general body of the supporters of the Board have received with approval the most advanced proposals that the Board has made. It is also certain that a considerable number of these supporters are willing to take further steps whenever such steps can be taken with general approval, and in cooperation with friends of the movement in Great Britain and Canada.

## "LACHRYMOSE"

At the Brooklyn *Eagle's* spelling bee, January 23, 1914, among the words given to the helpless victims was *lacrimose*. The gentleman who gave out the words had at his hand Webster's New International Dictionary as the authority. One child spelled the word correctly, *lacrimose*; but no boy or girl happened to spell it "according to Webster," which is "lachrymose," and so they were all bowled down, and all had to go out; and then (because the contest had to go on), they were called back, to be trapped by some other word. Yet the very dictionary used as the authority contains, as to the first word of the group, this entry: "*Lachrymal* . . . The better but unusual spelling is *lacrimal*." The correct Latin forms are in fact *lacrima*, *lacrimalis*, *lacrimosus*. The spelling *lachry-* is found in many dictionaries; but it contains two errors, for which Roman school boys would have been corrected in a feeling manner.

The Brooklyn children were sent out as having spelled the word "incorrectly." The fact was, they did not happen to guess that the dictionary

in question puts forth the worst spelling as the "preferd" one. We can all understand the reason why publishers "prefer" to put *lachrymose* first. Publishers, but not scholars or educators, are allowed to "prefer" spellings. They intend, indeed, to prefer "usage." But how do they know usage? They depend on their proof-readers. How do *they* know? They don't know. Did any one ever see a reasonable 'style-book' or a reasonable list of "preferd spellings" in an orthodox publisher's office?

### PRESENTS A MORAL ISSUE

Professor John Dearness, President of the Ontario Historical Society and a member of the Advisory Council, addressed the Men's Federation of St. Andrews, London, Ont., March 1, on "English Spelling as an Obstacle to Missionary Effort." He made the point that the simplification of English spelling presents a moral issue. He compared English spelling with Chinese foot-binding, and applied the argument to missionary work with foreigners who can read and write their own language. We also are under the bonds of superstition. It is better to bind the feet than to bind the head. There is, in fact, in this matter as in all other intellectual arguments, a moral issue. What is intellectually right becomes an intellectual duty. Our people should be made to see that by the improvement of English spelling they can greatly assist the efforts of English-speaking missionaries. Missionaries in all lands are expressing this belief, which some express also as a hope. A hope that reason will prevail!

### GOOD AND BAD SPELLING

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* (June 10, 1912) proposed that "examining bodies no longer require correct spelling except from intending compositors," and said he was "willing to join a society with the object of making wrong spelling permissible rather than compulsory."

There is a good idea in this, which we have put forward in the BULLETIN. It is not necessary that all spelling shall be uniform. It is idle to expect, and foolish to require, all persons to spell in the same way, so long as there is no definite method of spelling. The prejudice against "bad spelling" is exaggerated, and in a great part factitious. With most persons it is simply a withered joke. We do not really mind a little "bad spelling" on the part of our friends. Even

in the best educated circles only a few persons are "correct spellers" in the professional sense. To make spelling a vital test of culture or learning is mere folly. The printer can make any one a "correct speller." A few flicks of his fingers, the types fall into place, and presto! we all spell like a flock of academies.

Colonel W. F. Prideaux, a learned and versatile contributor to *Notes and Queries*, has expressed this opinion in the *Pall Mall Gazette*: "There is much unnecessary waste of time, which might be devoted to more important matters, in teaching spelling to children. An intelligent child will pick up spelling from the books he reads; if he does not, it is no great matter. If in subsequent life he writes to the newspapers, as he probably will, the printer's reader will correct his mistakes, and in private correspondence his friends, who know no better than himself, will make every allowance for him. No one ever thought the worse of Robert Louis Stevenson because he was never sure whether there was one *m* or two in *accommodation*."

### REMARKABLE DISCOVERIES

The Simplified Spelling Board has never been able to get ahead of the writers of standard English literature. Whatever recommendations the Board may make, it is found that the 'standard writers' have used them before. Of course, as the newspapers frequently intimate, the members of the Board and the other advocates of simplified spelling are totally indifferent to English literature, and have never read any of the works of the great authors. It is therefore all the more gratifying to find that whatever the Board recommends happens to be supported by the authentic works of the accepted writers of English literature. Not long ago an English clergyman wrote a letter, which was published in many British newspapers, defending simplified spellings on the ground that they were used in some editions of the English Bible, and giving some instances. After sufficient time had elapsed for the British newspapers to reach the United States, many American newspapers received a "special cable dispatch" dated up to date, and beginning with the statement that American spelling reformers would be interested and gratified to learn that some of the simplified spellings that they had been recommending were contained in some of the earlier editions of the English Bible. This surprising information was furnished with sensational headlines.

Of course, the sensational thing was that the receivers of this "special cable dispatch" had learned, for the first time, that there was an English Bible, and, what was still more remarkable, that some editions had been printed years ago, and, thirdly, that these editions differed in spelling.

This should give the reformers courage. Here is positive proof that some newspaper men may learn something (if only by "special cable dispatch") about English literature. When they learn more, they will probably concur in the opinions and recommendations of the other great scholars of the world.

### COLORADO ADVANCES

The State Teachers College of Colorado continues the use of simplified spellings. In its twenty-third "Year Book and Catalog," 1913-1914, it adds the simplified spellings included in the Fourth List, published in March, 1913. Thus the first two pages of the main text (pages 11, 12), contain not only the earlier simplifications like *establisht*, *past*, *catalog*, *prest*, *building*, *abrest*, but also the later simplifications like *scool*, *commodius*, *glas*, *hav*, *ar*, *taut*; and this advance orthography runs thru the whole book. The title-page bears the statement: "In all publications of this institution is employed the spelling recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board."

The College has also published (January, 1914) a new bulletin stating the purpose and plan of its newly established "Bureau of Recommendations." It is a plan whereby every graduate of the College may be brought into connection with every possible opening for teaching in the State. The plan will evidently be much used. And as the bulletins and circulars are printed in advance simplified spelling, that notion will thus take on practical form.

President Snyder and his faculty show wisdom in thus bringing the doctrine of simplified spelling into the reality of routine use in connection with the affairs of daily life. There must, of course, be much proposal and discussion of simplified spelling in articles devoted to that subject; but "simplified spelling," to be real, must be actually used, in various stages of completeness or incompleteness, in printed papers and books that relate to other subjects. Some men must preach from the pulpit, and more must assent from the pews. But preaching and assent are of no value if they are not put into practice in the light of common day.

It is easy when you are willing. And it is not very difficult when somebody else is unwilling. The willingness of a small group of men, who know what they are about, may be made more potent than the unwillingness of a thousand isolated individuals.

### POETIC AND TRUE

Abraham Cowley, a once famous English poet, in one of his "Pindarique Odes," namely, "The Plagues of Egypt" (st. 13) wrote these lines (Works, ed. 1672 [part 3], page 59):

Ten thousand terrors through the darkness fled,  
And Ghosts complain'd, and Spirits murmured.

Observe that he wrote *complain'd* and *murmured*, and that he meant the *-ed* to rhyme with *fled*. What he meant he wrote. It was the custom. Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, Cowley, and other poets spelled in that way—*complain'd* and *murmured*—because they pronounced those words in that way. At first they spelled the shortend forms without the apostrophe—*complained*, *rained*, *scand*, *renderd*, and so on. But when they meant *-ed* they wrote *-ed*. Why not?

### THE SOCIETY FOR PURE ENGLISH

The movement for the reformation of English spelling, and the works published by Mr. Bridges, the poet laureate, Sir Harry H. Johnston, and others, have led to the formation in England, at the suggestion of Mr. Bridges, of a Society for Pure English. An interesting comment on the purposes of the Society by William Archer is published in the London (Eng.) *Daily News*, January 16, 1914.

The Simplified Spelling Society has rightly insisted on 'clear speech' in connection with 'clean spelling,' and Mr. Bridges repeats the opinion, so often expressed by scholars, that a more accurate spelling of English would restore a more accurate pronunciation. Mr. Bridges's main thesis is that only by a regulation of English spelling can the deterioration of English pronunciation and of the English language be checked. If there were in ordinary use a spelling that would indicate or fairly suggest the correct pronunciation of the words, the average educated person would pronounce them with reasonable accuracy. Even if he desired to do so, he simply could not help pronouncing most words with accuracy and clearness. This is shown in the speech of Italian peasants, who, within a very narrow margin, pronounce the vowels, stressed or

unstrest, with a clearness and precision that few Englishmen or Americans of the highest education can rival. The history of the Latin and the Greek languages indicates that this was the case with those languages in ancient times. There wer small deviations, but these small deviations wer notist and recorded. The Greek dialects wer used with precision, and wer recorded with obvius accuracy.

### TOO ROMANTIC

An editorial contributor to *The Lady*, London (Eng.), replying to a correspondent who presented the current arguments for the regulation of spelling, anserd in this lady-like fashion:

It may be quite true, as "D.S." argues, with an erudition which knocks out mine in the first round, that our present system of spelling is untrustworthy from the point of view of etymology. But I maintain that in spite of baffling inconsistencies, and, indeed, sometimes because of them, the system is valuable as a teacher of history, and lovable because the romantic derivation of words is, in spite of lapses and excrescences, still to be discerned in it.

But who wants "romantic derivation"? There ar too many "romantic derivations" abroad in the land and in the air, alredy. Many of the derivations that ar "still to be discerned" in English spelling can not be discerned anywhere else. They ar too romantic for any honest man to accept. We must ask *The Lady* to put "romantic derivations" back into the handbox and to place truth on the counter.

### SPELLING AND THE COURTS

The New York *Evening Post* thus reported some time ago a decision of a North Carolina court:

An enraged citizen, it appears, shot a neighbor through the breast, inflicting a wound that resulted in the death of the latter and in his own arrest. But he was not long in custody. In the indictment, the clerk had written "breast." There being no such thing in the human anatomy, the court was under the necessity of holding that the indictment was not according to legal form. Presumably, the rearrest of the murderer on a correctly spelled indictment was prevented by the constitutional provision against the placing of a citizen in jeopardy of his life a second time.

If the court so held, the fact merely proves a lack of intelligence on the part of the North Carolina judge, as the comment betrays a lack of intelligence on the part of the New York editor. Gentlemen who wish to shoot other gentlemen thru the 'breast,' or to nock them on the 'hed,' may rest assured that the law wil look upon the act with as much disapproval as if they speld it 'breast' or 'head.' If, however, the North Carolina judge and the New York editor

hav taken into their respectiv 'heds' that the law wil ignore their lawless acts, if stated in simplified spelling, their heds may rest easy. *De minimis non curat lex.*

### WUN MORE BLO

A British paper, some time ago, brought this terrible objection against the spelling proposed by the Simplified Spelling Society. A check of a member of that Society was speld (and casht) as "wun pound." And the paper objected:

Now, the word "one," as bank cashiers know, is fairly forgery proof, but to a carelessly written "wun" one has merely to affix a "t" and add a "ty" to transform it into "twenty," while the alteration of the figure "1" to "2" is not beyond the skill of the expert penman.

It is of course impossible to change any number into a higher number, or to forge any word, if it is speld in the ordinary fashion. Thus the insuperable objections to any change of spelling continue to accumulate. We expect to learn soon that the agitation for a change in spelling is the cause of the decline of the stage, and of the increase of crime among oysters.

### FIDDLESTICKS

The Lake Placid (N.Y.) *Club Notes* spels a word as *offis* which others ar accustomed to spel *office*. Whereupon a critic thus delivers himself:

"To the Speller of Lake Placid Club.

"SIR: *Offis* does not Spell *Office*. If your ear does not enable you to distinguish between the sound of S. and C. or ce. then the defect is clearly yours. A few violin lessons would help you fellows and awaken a sense of differentiating sounds you never have dreamed of. Many of your words are more glaringly at fault than the one here mentioned."

The bearings of these observations lie in the application of them. "A few violin lessons" suggest fiddlesticks. It takes a fine long ear to distinguish between the sounds of "S. and C. or ce."

### THE GNAT AND THE GNU

"How absurd," said the gnat to the gnu,

"To spell your queer name as you do!"

"For the matter of that,"

Said the gnu to the gnat,

"That's just how I feel about you."

—OLIVER HERFORD, in *The Century*.

### PICNICING

From South Africa comes the news that some English ladies were picnicing near Hell's Gates, Kamache, when they were suddenly confronted by a lion. He looked at them for a moment, roared, and then turned tail. We have easily guessed what he mistook them for.

—1912 Punch, Nov. 20, vol. 143, p. 405.

## THE FOURTH LIST AS A CLASSIC

Among the simplified forms recommended in the Fourth List (March 1913) are very many that have been used by the writers of classic English literature in former and in recent times: Some examples and references are cited in the List (p. 8, 9, 10, 11, 13). We note here a few examples, with dates and references,

**downhil.** 1755 JOHNSON, Dictionary of the English Language, vol. 1.

*Downhil* is the correct analogous spelling. In a disyllabic compound in which either component word had final double *l*, one *l* was regularly omitted in the compound. It was so in compounds with a prefix. This is the secret of *until* as contrasted with *till*, and of *distil* and *instil* as contrasted with *still*; and of *instal*, *offal*, *appal*, *recal*, *enrol*, *extol*, etc., some of which have retained the normal single *l*. Thus the spellings *distil*, *instil*, *instal*, *distilment*, *instalment*, *skilful*, *wilful*, etc., are the regular spellings of those words. The spellings *distillment*, *installment*, *skillful*, and *willful* are based on the erroneous assumption that all words having the suffix *-ful* or *-ment* retain, in composition, the double consonant of the simple word. Dr. Johnson himself, who gave *downhil* (and *downfal*, *appal*, etc.) with one *l*, entered, on a later day and in a later year of his work, *uphill*, with two *l*'s. Walker himself (1791) gives *downfal*, but protests against *downhil*.

**giv.** 1729 DEFOE, Compleat English Gentleman (first pub. 1890), p. 56, 57, 58. 1790 NOAH WEBSTER, Collection of Essays, p. 313, et passim.

**gon.** 1549 LATIMER, Seven Sermons (repr. 1869), p. 197. 1590 SPENSER, Faerie Queene, 3: 7: 10. 1598 FLORIO. 1623 SHAKESPEARE 2 Hen. IV, 1: 4: 110 (facsim. 1623, [2]: 79); Tr. and Cr., 1: 2: 264 (facsim. 1623, [4]: [81]). 1667 COWLEY, Works, 1672, [6]: 141. 1684 BUNYAN, Pilgrim's Progress, Second Part (facsim. 1875), p. 15 (twice), 31.

**hart** (= heart). 1549 LATIMER, Seven Sermons (reprinted 1869), p. 48, 145. 1589 PUTTENHAM, Arte of Eng. Poesie (repr. 1869), p. 225, 250. 1590 LODGE, Rosalynde (repr. 1892), p. 10, 91, 152. 1608 SYLVESTER, tr. Du Bartas, Deuine Weekes and Workes, 2: 1: 4 (1:300); 2: 2: 1 (1:317). 1611 SPEED, History of Great Britaine, 9: 8: 502. 1633 G. HERBERT (Poet. wks. 1886, p. 257, 283).

**hauty.** 1549 LATIMER, Seven Sermons (repr. 1869), p. 85 (*hautye*). 1587 HIGGINS, Galba (Mirror for Mag. repr. 1815, 1:303) (*hawty*). 1598 FLORIO (*hautie*). 1611 COTGRAVE (*hautie*). 1644 MILTON, Areopagitica (repr. 1868), p. 33 (*hautinesse*).

**kno.** 1623 SHAKESPEARE, 2 Hen. IV, 1: 3: 1 (1623 facsim. [2]: 78) (in a close-set line).

**kno'.** 1729 DEFOE, Compleat English Gentleman (1890), p. 5, 36, 37 (3 times), 38, 44, 45, 47, 48, 50 (et passim).

**nick-nack.** 1901 Oxford English Dictionary (hed-word: "knick-knack, nick-nack").

**nicknackeries.** 1836 F. REYNOLDS, Life and Times, 1: 32.

**nick-nackets.** 1789 BURNS, On the Late Captain Grose's Perigrinations.

**nick-nacks.** 1714 MANDEVILLE, Fable of the Bees. 1756 "Nicholas Babbie," in The Prater, Sept. 25, no. 29, p. 171. 1790 MORISON, Poems (Jamieson). 1815 JOHN SCOTT, A Visit to Paris in 1814, p. 186. 1820 IRVING, Sketch-book. 1823 COBBETT, Rural Rides (1849), p. 386. 1857 MILLHOUSE, Ital. and Eng. Dict., p. 245. 1894 N. and Q., Dec. 8, p. 460 (in an editorial review). 1898 F. T. BULLEN, Cruise of the Cachalot, 8: 83.

**nicnacs.** 1835-39 DICKENS, Sketches by Boz II. (1850), 6.

**notting.** 1798 and 1799 JANE AUSTEN, Letters to Cassandra (Novels and Letters, 1906, 11:240 and 283).

**pronounst.** 1590 LODGE, Rosalynde (repr. 1892), p. 161.

**rapsody.** 1611 COTGRAVE (*rapsodie*). 1641 WOTTON, in Reliquiæ Wottonianæ (1672), p. 182.

**rapsodies.** 1623 SHAKESPEARE, Macbeth, 5:3: [55] (facsim. [5]:148). 1642 SIR THOMAS BROWNE, Religio Medici (facsim. 1883), p. 57. 1790 NOAH WEBSTER, Collection of Essays, p. 347.

**rubarb.** 1578 A Gorgious Gallery of Gallant Inuentions, sig. H. 1623 SHAKESPEARE, Macbeth, 5: 3: 55 (facsim. [5]: 149). 1627 BACON, Sylva Sylvarum (1635), 1: 19.

**ruf** (= rough). (1) *Ruffe*. 1594 BARNFIELD, The Affectionate Shepherd (Halliwell, p. 697). 1611 FLORIO, Dict. of the Italian and English Tongues, p. 455. 1653 WALTON, Com-

pleat Angler (repr. 1869), p. 99. 1683 PETTUS, *Fleta Minor I* (1686), 9. *Unruffe*. 1623 SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, 5: 2: 10 (facsim. [5]: 148). (2) *Ruff*. 1659 TORRIANO (Florio ed. 3). 1665 SIR T. HERBERT, *Travels* (1677), p. 20. 1676 WORLIDGE, *Cyder* (1691), p. 161. c1738 SWIFT, *To Dr. Sheridan*. (3) *Ruf*. 1790 NOAH WEBSTER, *Collection of Essays*, p. 365.

Several of the words now commonly speld *ruff* ar from *rough*, but hav acquired specific senses that giv them the look of different words.

**ruful**. 1440 *Promptorium Parvulorum* (1843-65), p. 439. 1563 SACKVILLE, *Induction* (*Mirror for Mag.* repr. 1815, 2:314; 331 (twice) (*rufull*). 1582 STANYHURST, *Aeneis II* (1869), p. 55. 1648 J. BEAUMONT. 1728 POPE, *Dunciad*, 2:142.

**shal**. 1535 COVERDALE, *Bible* (passim). 1589 PUTTENHAM, *Arte of English Poesie* (repr. 1869), p. 51, etc. LODGE, *Rosalynde* (repr. 1892), p. 11. 1608 SYLVESTER, tr. *Du Bartas*, *Deuine Weekes and Workes*, *Corona dedicatoria*. 1611 *Bible* (ed. 1613), Gen. 9:14, 25; 15:4; 17:5, 17; 18:28, etc.; Mal. 3:11, etc. 1617 HOOKER, *Of the Lawes of Ecclesiastical Politie*, 1:11:34. 1628 COKE, *First Part of the Institutes*, fol. 228b. 1650 VAUGHAN, *Silex Scintillans* (facsim. 1885), p. 63. 1653 WALTON, *Compleat Angler* (repr. 1869), p. 4, etc.

**shalbe**. c1450 *Towneley Mysteries* (1836), p. 320. 1499 *Plumpton Corresp.* (1839), p. 132, 137, etc. 1501 *Id.*, p. 147, 151. 1549 LATIMER, *Seven Sermons* (repr. 1869), p. 31, 34, 123, etc. 1589 PUTTENHAM, *Arte of Eng. Poesie* (repr. 1869), p. 57. 1611 *Bible* (1613), Gen. 4:24; 17:12, etc.

**wil**. 1535 COVERDALE, *Bible*, Luke 6: [9]. 1549 LATIMER, *Seven Sermons* (repr. 1869), p. 27, 206, et passim. 1590 LODGE, *Rosalynde* (repr. 1892), p. 3. 1611 *Bible*, Mal. 3:8, 11, etc. 1628 COKE, *First Part of the Institutes*, fol. 228b. 1613 PURCHAS, *Pilgrimage* (passim). 1616 BEN JONSON, *Workes*, p. 669. 1600-1623 SHAKESPEARE (passim). 1653 WALTON, *Compleat Angler* (repr. 1869), p. 8. 1790 NOAH WEBSTER, *Collection of Essays*, p. 344.

**wilbe**. 1500 *Plumpton Corresp.* (1839), p. 146. 1549 LATIMER, *Seven Sermons* (repr. 1869), p. 199. 1589 PUTTENHAM, *Arte of Eng. Poesie* (repr. 1869), p. 109.

## UNPOPULAR AND INTERESTING

The *Unpopular Review* for January, Vol. I, No. 1, fully justifies its title, if unpopular is taken to mean unreasonably reasonable, unpleasantly tru, annoyingly accurate, too good to be available, not flattering, not sentimental, not mushy, not disposed to boohoo because some men hav to work. If this is unpopular, the *Review* makes the most of it. The very titles of the articles indicate the unpopular point of view. Thus: "The Majority Juggernaut," "The Democrat Reflects," "The New Morality," "Two Neglected Virtues" (which ar reticence and tact—but is tact exactly a virtue?), "A Needed Unpopular Reform," "Our Tobacco: Its Cost," "Our Alcohol: Its Use," "The Standing Incentives to War."

Not all these articles ar unreasonably reasonable. They concede something to human nature, and allow even our bishops and other clergy to conform, and to absorb tobacco and alcohol, so it be done decently and in order.

As thretend in the prospectus of the *Review* (see S.S. BULLETIN, December, 1913, p. 39), this January number contains an article in explanation and defense of simplified spelling, and in exemplification of further simplicities. We quote the last paragraf of the main text (p. 222):

It certainly woud be best, az allreddy propoozd, tu dubl eech vowel for its long sownd, az we allreddy du in *deem* and *door*. But we hav no exampl ov dubl *a*, *i*, or *u* (except in tu or three forren wurdz liik *bazaar*, and ov coors, ovr utterly exentric *w*), but the S.S.S. recommendz *uu* insted of the *oo* in *coon*, and dubl *a* in *faather*, which we accept. We do not need to dubl the *a* befoor *r* final in monosilabls becawz it haz the *ah* sownd befoor *r* except when the *a* follooz a *w* sownd, iither in *w* itself or in *ew* exprest az *q*, e.g. in *war* (*wawr*) or *quart* (*qawrt*). The foorgoing givz dubl vowelz for all but *i*, and we propooz them thair. This iz a compleet sitem baasd on a principl.

This is the penultimate paragraf (p. 226):

We may venture upon another (annuthther?) spelling lesson in the next number, especially if ovr reederz giv enny siin ov wawnting it; and it may anser sum geschonz raazd in this lesson. And we may even go so far az tu prezant a fiu miild innovashonz in ovr text, az haz bin heroically don by the *Educational Review*, *The Independent*, and sum uthther periodicalz ov standing. [This number uses *stript* (p. 52).]

A review which assaults in one number the majority, democracy, lax morality, loquacity, mendacity, stupidity, tobacco, alcohol, war, and orthodox spelling, is entitled to all the unpopularity that wil come to it. We understand that those worthy citizens who ar free from these faults ar subscribing in great numbers, in order to grieve quarterly at the exposure of their neighbors' errors. Our readers, who, of course, hav no faults to speak of, wil doutless swel the list of subscribers.

## CIRCUS SPELLING

The rage for spelling-bees seems to continue unabated, east and west, north and south. These private theatricals form a good substitute for a circus or a variety sho. Children take to them with enthusiasm, as they do to all other scool picnics. It is wel known that public-scool pupils and college students wil giv to private theatricals and other forms of play, an amount of attention and intellectual effort that would make them miracles of erudition, if that attention and effort wer bestoed upon subjects of formal study.

Then the spelling-bees always supply continuous amusement for the audience. One reason is indicated in this simple little anecdote, printed in the *Pioneer ov Simplified Speling*, September, 1913, p. 109:

A boi woz aaset "Which subject duu yu liec best at scuul?"

"Speling, sur."

"Indeed! Moest boiz doen't. Whi duu yu?"

"Becaüz everi tiem I spel a wurd, teecheer lääfs."

But odly enuf, "teecheer lääfs" at the boy's spelling, not at the spelling in the book. Boys may be rong, but print—never!

## LANTERN SLIDES

The Executiv Committee has prepared a series of lantern slides for the use of lecturers on simplified spelling. The principal slides ar fotografs of works of English literature, extending from 1535 to 1667. The fotografs hav been taken from the original works or from facsimiles, or from exact reprints.

The series also includes copies of the spelling-lesson leaflets, that ar so much used thruout the country by persons who enclose them in their letters, not only as a hint to their correspondents that they kno what they ar spelling, but also as a delicate lesson in English for those persons who left spelling scool without learning the real qualities of English spelling.

Additions wil be made to the slides. The series, as it now stands, wil enable a lecturer to present to his audience specimens of earlier English literature, belonging to different periods, shoing, when presented in cronological order, how the spelling was gradually changed to meet the different pronunciations of the different periods.

These slides wil be lent, under arrangement, to lecturers. They wil serv as hints for other slides that may be made by any one.

The slides wil also be appropriate in lectures on English literature. Each slide wil form a text for statement or comment in regard to the conditions and ideas of the period represented. The slides may also be used in connection with any literary entertainment, as they ar both instructiv and entertaining.

## LIST OF SLIDES

1. 1489 Statutes of Henry VII, printed by Caxton (facsimile, p. 9)
2. 1496 Treatyse of fyssynge wyth an angle (facsimile, p. 1)
3. 1535 Coverdale's Bible, title page (facsimile)
4. 1535 Coverdale's Bible, Mark, ch. 1 (facsimile)
5. 1536 Tyndale's translation of the New Testament, title page (facsimile)
6. 1549 The first form of the Book of Common Prayer, the first page of Matins (exact reprint)
7. 1579 SPENSER, The Shepheardes Calender (facsimile, fol. 5)
8. 1594 The Bible (Geneva Version), title page
9. 1594 The Bible (Geneva Version), First page of Genesis
10. 1613 Holy Bible (Authorized Version), Mark, ch. 1
11. 1637 MILTON, Comus, p. 2 (facsimile)
12. 1667 MILTON, Paradise Lost, book 1, lines 591-622 (facsimile)
- 13-30. The Spelling-lesson Leaflets publisht by the Board
31. Before — and — After Simplifying
32. Easy and Short. Long and Easy
33. Intruders — Put 'em out
34. Puzzlers
35. 'Sh! 'Sh!
36. Short E — at Some Length

## METAGRAMS

Some British newspapers ar playing with a trick of spelling English words, the game being to make up a new spelling, in which none of the letters of the old spelling shal be used; that is, to substitute different letters that, in the positions into which they ar put, wil suggest the same sounds as the old spelling. The words thus undergo a complete change of costume. Words so transliterated may be cald 'metagrams' or (in analogy with *parafrese*) 'paragrams.' Two examples given ar 'phyra' for *fire* and 'phyoocha' for *future*. These involv pronunciations that most Americans do not use, or would not accept. An other case of this kind would be 'syfa' for *cipher*.

More exact 'metagrams' or 'paragrams' may be found: 'Cyphed' for *sift*, 'kauphy' for *coffee*, 'phycks' for *fix*, 'phyckst' for *fixed*, 'kawph' for *cough*, 'kawpht' for *coughed*, 'cy' for *sigh*, 'eauque' for *oak*, 'pheauque' for *folk*. In what other language could this be done? French allows a little opening (for example, *sait* and *ces*).

## GRAND AND BEAUTIFUL

From the verdant precincts of Gardenville, in My Maryland, a gentle voice is raised in behalf of Webster's Dictionary as the last bulwark of medievalism against the assaults of modern spelling. Thus rites Georgia V. Fox in the *Baltimore News*, Feb. 4, 1914:

To the Editor of *The News*:

I read in last Saturday's issue a letter signed "Martha R. Clark," in which she strongly advocated what she terms simplified spelling. Simple—yes. That is true, in all its meaning, but no further. I wish to engage in no controversy; it would not be at all necessary, but once and for all, I feel it to be a duty both to myself and my country to express my indignation at the mere suggestion of placing a mutinous hand upon the golden leaves of the most beautiful book that ever adorned a library—the elegant work of our illustrious, grand, great and unequaled Webster—and here I, too, must quote a little Scripture, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do."

Was not that book our best friend, our gentle and amiable guide and counselor in our school days? Did we not rush to it eagerly for counsel and truth with the confidence a little child appeals to its mother? Did it not always soothe our trouble and send us on our way rejoicing, convinced and much wiser?

Oh, the ingratitude! To dare a mere suggestion of placing in its stead a mere fool's damnable gibberish. To the four winds of heaven cast your fears lest the youth of today, nay, hundreds of years hence, will ever rise up and put to shame one word of Webster's, from Alpha to Omega. It can never be done, no matter how wild and mad a pace the world may be going with your modern methods.

Oh! where, where are Webster's scholars, that they do not wake up and speak with me?

Dear reader, lift up your voice—hands also, if necessary—to arms, to down such desecration of our grand and beautiful book, and help me to place it upon the spear of Old Glory, where she will ensconce it with her floating robes, and they will go hand in hand down life's pathway, in right, might, truth and valor to the end of time.

GEORGIA V. FOX.

Gardenville, Md., Jan. 26.

How can a grand and beautiful dictionary, placed on a spear and ensconced in the floating robes of a flag, go hand in hand with *anything* down life's pathway to the end of time? We should become tired at the very next corner. Still, this is a powerful argument against any change of spelling, tho it would have seemed odd to Noah, in his time.

## A NEW ENGLAND CONSCIENCE

A gentleman of New England, having received one of the cards for the signatures of persons who favor the regulation of English spelling, expressed himself in a negative fashion, but in a most positive way, thus, *verbatim et literatim* (*et no date him*). The extra periods are also his own, and show, apparently, where he became speechless, or where the periodic fits returned:

Simplified Spelling Board. Executive committee.

I will not sign anything favoring Simplified Spelling. It is a Confession of IGNORANCE...

Any child can learn to spell properly and correctly if taught properly for one year in any school. I was so taught fifty years ago, and I can spell any word in common use. So could any other child.

Your plan destroys the Value of words, Ignores their derivation, and makes us all a common herd of ignorant people. I shall decline positively to have anything whatever to do with your proposal so long as I live and if any books are so printed I shall not read them, but throw them out of the window as token of ignorance...

Yours Truly. [Signature]

N.B. I have thrown your circulars into the rubbish barrel.

No. 1. Madison Avenue N Y

I Hate the BLUE BOOK of the Motor Car association for spelling Blue, "BLU." Why don't they spell BOOK "BUK"?

He seems to keep a "barrell" for rubbish. Was it full?

## THE IDAHO RESOLUTION

The Idaho State Teachers' Association, at its annual meeting, December 31, 1913, adopted the following resolution:

Whereas: English spelling is chaotic, illogical, unscientific, and cumbersome; and much time, money and effort are wasted in teaching, learning, writing, and printing useless letters;

Therefore be it resolved, by the Idaho State Teachers' Association, in annual session assembled at Boise, December 29-31: That the work of the Simplified Spelling Board be endorsed; that the immediate use is favored of the simpler and shorter of alternative spellings already in good use; that a Committee of Three on Simplified Spelling be appointed by the President to cooperate with similar committees already appointed by the Washington State Teachers' Association and by the Inland Empire Teachers' Association.

## DIAFRAMS

London *Tit-Bits* prints this tale:

Johnny handed the following note from his mother one morning: "Dere teacher—You keep tellin' my boy to breathe with his diafram. Maybe rich children have got diaframs, but how about when their father only makes two shillings a day and has got five children to keep? First it's one thing, then it's another, and now it's diaframs. That's the worst yet."

No. The worst is *diaphragms*. Suppose you had to use *them*. The doctors of the Simplified Spelling Society offer you a simple *diafram*. Use that, and you will breathe easier.

## FLOX

And here she paused in her glorious talk, To point me a moth on the milk-white flox.

—1844 ROBERT BROWNING, *Garden Fancies*, 1, *The Flower's Name* (*Hood's Mag.*, 1844, p. 45).

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

President William Trufant Foster of Reed College, Portland, Oregon, has been making a tour of the Pacific States, speaking on various educational topics, among others, on simplified spelling. He has found everywhere a considerable amount of interest in simplified spelling, and very little direct opposition.

Arrangements have been made for missionary tours by Professor George H. Danton of Butler College, Indiana, in some states of the west and southwest, and by Professor Maurice G. Fulton, of Davidson College, North Carolina, in some of the southern states, in the coming summer.

A new historical work, "The Borough of the Bronx, 1639-1913, by Harry T. Cook, assisted by Nathan J. Kaplan, published by the author at 1660 Boone avenue, New York, 1913," adds to its historical interest the evidence of a scientific spirit, in the use of several simplified spellings. We note *altho*, *tho*, *thoro*, *thorofare*, *thru*, *thruout*, *synagog*, as well as *center* and *theater*, which, after some centuries of common use, are beginning to seem to some persons quite tolerable, and even worthy of their sanction.

The Temperance Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under the lead of the Rev. Dr. Clarence True Wilson, General Secretary, Topeka, Kans., is using simplified spelling in its publications. It has sent some manuscripts and proofs to the office of the Board to have the spelling modernized.

An abstract of the address on "Simplified Spelling," delivered by Prof. James M. Grainger, of the State Normal School at Farmville, Va., before the English Section of the Virginia State Teachers' Association, at Lynchburg, Nov. 26-28, 1913, is printed in the March (1914) number of the *Virginia Journal of Education* (p. 279, 280).

A Presbyterian clergyman replies thus to a circular of information:

I regard the labors of your self-appointed "Simplified Spelling Board" as a criminal conspiracy against the English language, and wish the Government would suppress your pernicious attempts to mar & mutilate our mother tongue. We have enough barbarous spelling in this section already.

Need we say what section he means?

John M. Mott died at South Haven, Michigan, January 22, 1914, aged 79 years. He was long an advocate of the reformation of English spelling, and published books and pamphlets representing his adjustment of the alphabet on the basis of 'one sound, one sign.' He was also an

inventor, and had the spirit of patient constancy which inventors so often possess. He was a member of the Advisory Council.

The *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, published by Harvard University, uses the simplified spellings *tho*, *altho*, and *thoro*; and perhaps some others. No arrests have been made. In a sporting journal published by Harvard University, the orthography would no doubt be looked after.

An Ontario correspondent writes that he has been informed that "the Bible Society is considering the publication of one of the gospels in simplified spelling for the benefit of foreigners learning English." But is it right to spread the gospel by altering the spelling in which it was given to the apostles?

## OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

The Secretary of the faculty of the Ohio State University, has sent the following official notice to the Board:

The University Faculty at its meeting held February 12, 1914, adopted the enclosed list of 176 words which were selected from Circular No. 15 (Nov. 28, 1907) of the Simplified Spelling Board.

The Faculty accepted all of the rules contained in this circular, except Rule 3.

The University Editor was instructed to use the spelling as indicated in all the official publications of the University.

This action covers the Three Hundred Words, except forms like *dropt*, *crost*, *wisht*, etc., and is substantially the same as that taken by some other universities. It supplies an additional proof, if any additional proof is needed, that the movement for the regulation of English spelling is widely approved among competent scholars and educators.

## THE MISSOURI RESOLUTION

The following is the resolution passed by the Missouri State Teachers' Association, November 7, 1913. By agreement thereafter made, it will be presented again at the next annual meeting. In the mean time the resolution, and the arguments in its favor, will be made known, so far as possible, to all the teachers in Missouri:

The Missouri State Teachers' Association approves the simplified spelling movement, orders that the forms recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board be used in all its official publications and correspondence, urges the State Superintendent and all other educators of the State to adopt the above-mentioned forms, and authorizes the appointment of a standing committee of seven members, to be known as the Committee on Simplified Spelling, to further the use of simplified spelling forms.

